Gay hope for the Olympics Meet David Pichler, the only out diver going to Syndey in 2000. page 14 Journey to the heartland Reflections on life in America at the end of the 20th century. page 10



Revenge of the nerds In 1999, computer geeks got themselves beefed up. see Arts section



Vol. 29 • No. 52 • 30 December 1999

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# Pentagon against gay arassment

by Lisa Burgess, UPI

he Pentagon's gay anti-harassment policy of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" will become "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Harass" if Defense Secretary William Cohen has his way, a Pentagon spokesman said last Thursday, December 23.

"Secretary Cohen believes that the 1993 Congressional law should be expanded to include 'don't harass," Pentagon Spokesman Kenneth Bacon said. Although military commanders have

tagon spokesman Kenneth Bacon said.
Although military commanders have been told to come down hard on subordinates who persecute fellow soldiers for alleged homosexuality, "We want to 
put some backbone in the policy," 
Bacon said.

Military leaders have been asked to

Military leaders have been asked to submit updated training guidelines that include enhanced warnings against harassment by January 17, Bacon said.

against harassment by January 17, Bacon said.

The announcement elicited strong reaction from the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, a gay and lesbian-rights organization which, along with the American Civil Liberties Union, unsuccessfully challenged the Pentagon's policy.

"Obviously, the military has failed to enforce its own policy, so any efforts to improve their record have got to be welcomed by gay and lesbian service members who have suffered under 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell,'" Peg Byron, the organization's public education director, told United Press International.

"At the same time, though, it's all window dressing. As long as the military insists on treating lesbians and gays differently, as second-class service members, it's going to be hard to convince

bers, it's going to be hard to convince their colleagues and fellow soldiers to treat them as equals," Byron said. The so-called DADT policy is Pres-ident Bill Clinton's 1993 compromise

to his campaign proposal that homo-sexuals should be allowed to serve in the United States Armed Forces. After military leaders presented a solid block of opposition to Clinton's attempts to reverse the long-standing prohibition against gay service members, Congress and the White House struck a deal that allows gays and lesbians to serve in the military provided they do not admit

their sexual orientation.

The policy has resulted in what many critics say is dismal failure.

Since the policy has taken effect, discharges on the basis of homosexuality charges on the basis of homosexuality have increased in the Army, and several soldiers have been murdered, allegedly on the basis of their sexuality. Recently, first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, and presidential hopeful Vice President Al Gore have criticized the policy.

Some military leaders are actually using the anti-harassment policy as a way to discharge those people they suspect of homosexuality, Bacon said.

page 13 ▶

# Gays have reason to celebrate millenniun

by Terry Beswick

his is a town that knows how to party, and as the eve of the next millennium fast approaches, many residents of the Emerald City are turning their attention to where they will be – and with whom – when the clock strikes midnight, and the calendar rolls over into January 1, 2000.

In San Francisco, millennium events take place at the Embarcadero, Union Square, and Civic Center. The Castro is also gearing up for an unofficial party, and thousands of gays are expected to ring in the New Year in the streets and at the bars.

The beginning of a new millennium is cause enough to celebrate, and certainly to

smooch with a significant other.

But some observers dare to believe that, particularly for those who love people of the same gender, there is so much more to cele-



# look at '99: Par

by Katie Szymanski and Terry Beswick

nen we last left off, 1999 was looking pretty gritty and exciting; hard-fought legal victories brought San Francisco's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community ahead of the country in terms of progressive policies, the Pride Parade featured both the usual suspects and new faces, and a certain energy was in the air. The summer and fall of 1999 were no dif-

The summer and fall of 1999 were no dif-ferent; we had our tragedies and defeats, sure, but for the most part we remained a charged collection of street activism and mainstream organizing, hard-core street fairs and sit-down picnics, sex and family values (and sometimes, both), old-school

gay pride and nouveau gender benders. In short, we were beginning to see a place for all of us under the LGBT label, despite what Millennium March on Washington organiz-ers and Michigan separatists would have liked to define as "presentable." Whether you liked to define as "presentable." Whether you identified as queer, gay, womyn, or label-free, you most likely had your eyes opened to new ways of thinking about members of our community in 1999. What follows are some highlights from our community's forward steps and hindsight revelations that set the tone for our entry into the next century.

Setting the best example of the 1990s, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force stuck to its guns and continued to defend its decision not to support a gay civil rights bill pending in Congress because it did not

include gender identity as a protected cateinclude gender identity as a protected category. Conservative gays in the Bay Area blamed the organization for possibly sabotaging the only form of protection that the average gay man may have, but NGLTF rightfully knew that even the too-butch dyke or man in drag would not be covered by a policy so narrow.

It took Jerry Falwell to help us identify one of our own and soon after we made

one of our own, and soon after, we made that purple Teletubby our hero. And why shouldn't we? On July 2, a handful of **Tinky Winkys** marched over to United Airlines' ticket office in downtown San Francisco and ticket office in downtown San Francisco and protested the company's refusal to grant its employees domestic partnership coverage under San Francisco' landmark equal benefits ordinance. Clutching their magic bags for dear life, the Tinky Winkys were arrested, but a clear and clever statement was made.

In Orinda, the discovery of the body of a

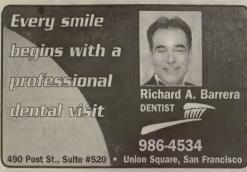


Activists dressed up as Tinky Winky protested in front of United's ticket office in July.

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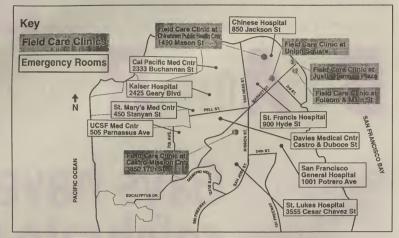
FIRST OF TWO SECTIONS











# City beefing up New Year's medical services

by Katie Szymanski

hether you've had too much to drink or have been attacked by a millennial-crazed Bible quoter, there are certain resources everyone should know about on New Year's Eve. The city's Department of Public Health has issued a map of 24-hour emergency rooms and has also set up less-urgent field care clinics at different points around San Francisco in the event of a New Year's in the event of a New Year's mishap; these clinics will be open at 9 p.m. and remain open through the night. Above is a map of emer-gency rooms and New Year's clinics, and below are New Year's hours of operation for regular walk-in clinics, some handy phone num-bers, and instructions on what to

bers, and instructions on what to do in an emergency.

First of all, plan ahead. Carry a flashlight, water, identification, and medication. Wear good walk-ing shoes. Bring lots of safe sex supplies. Know your limits for al-cohol consumption. Don't drink and drive or get into a car with somebody who has been drinking. If you find yourself in a non-emergency situation such as a

If you find yourself in a non-emergency situation such as a scraped knee, please do not call 911; you'll ruin it for people in a life-threatening emergency. But if you or others are overdosing, bleeding profusely, unconscious, not breathing, or have other obvi-ous dire symptoms, please do call 911. If you are uncertain whether you are in an emergency situation, assume that you are, and call 911.

you are in an emergency situation, assume that you are, and call 911.

Calling 911 from a cell phone involves a little more than your usual at-home emergency. You must know your location, or ambulances will be unable to find you (there's no tracing a cell phone to an address). Always because of an address). Always be aware of your surroundings and closest street corners. And remember, even if you're carrying an out of state cell phone (like, say, you're a visitor with a Chicago cell number), the signal will still connect you to local emergency service. From a pay phone, 911 calls are free. Just pick it up and dial.

All emergency rooms in the city (see map) will remain open 24-hours over the New Year's holiday.

For minor first aid, such as stitches and bandages, or care for

stitches and bandages, or care for the flu or a high fever, the New Year's Hours – from December 31 to January 2 – for regular walk-in clinics are as follows:

clinics are as follows:

• Mt. Zion Urgent Care, 2380
Sutter Street, is open from noon to midnight on all three days.

• UCSF Pediatric Care, 400
Parnassus, is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on December 31, and closed January 1 and 2.

• UCSF Screening and Acute Care Center is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on December 31 and Janu-

4 p.m. on December 31 and January 1, but closed on January 2.

• St. Luke's Prompt Care, 3555
Cesar Chavez (at 27th Street), is open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. all three days

three days.

Tom Waddell Health Center, at Polk and Grove, is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. all three days.

Southeast Health Center, 2401 Keith Street, is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on January 1, closed December 31 and January 2.

· San Francisco General Hospital Clinic, 1001 Potrero, opens

pital Clinic, 1001 Potrero, opens at 7 p.m. on New Year's Eve and remains open through January 2 at 7 p.m. The pediatric clinic stays open until January 2 at 11 p.m. Additionally, the special clinics set up just for New Year's Eve (see map) are at 1490 Mason Street in Chinatown, Union Square, Justin Herman Plaza, Folsom and Main Street, and 3850 17th Street for the Castro/Mission area. Rememthe Castro/Mission area. Remember, these non-emergency clinics will be open at 9 p.m. on New Year's Eve and remain open through the night.

Other resources to keep in mind are those old favorites, the

with everything from a mysteri-ous ingestion to a broken heart. Use these numbers whenever you need to over the holiday weekend: • Suicide Prevention (415) 781-0500

- Rape Treatment Center (415) 821-3222 Domestic Violence (415) 864-4722
- Youth Runaway Hotline 1-800-843-5200 Poison Control
- 1-800- 876-4766
- HIV Post-Exposure treatment (415) 487-5538

Got more than just the blues? If you feel you are in crisis, the Westside Crisis and Outpatient Clinic, 888 Turk Street, will be open 48 hours, from New Year's Eve through midnight on Satur-day. You can also call the Mental Health Mobil Crisis line, at (415)

Have fun and be safe, and if something gets out of control, remember that help is just a phone call or short walk away. ▼

#### Correction and clarification

In the December 23 arti-cle "Lesbian Avengers to the rescue for homeless youth," it was reported that the Gold-en Gate Metropolitan Com-munity Church and the Ark munity Church and the Ark
of Refuge had requested
\$114,774 from the city for a
shelter for 20 homeless
youth in their Noe Valley
church. As announced at a
December 19 community
meeting, it was determined
by the fire marshal that the church space could only accommodate 10 people, and the request to the city had been reduced to approximately \$73,000.

mately \$73,000.

In the December 16 article "Use pager to remember your meds," it was reported that clients of the city's Virtual Action Point/Castro pager reminder program, available at Stadtlanders pharmacy in the Castro, have the option of programming their pagers themselves on the Internet, at www.medimom.com. The www.medimom.com. The article should have mentioned that MediMOM is a subscription service, available for \$14.99 per month.
We regret the errors. ▼

# Sisters ring in the New Year with a benefit

uck This! Or so say the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, those fun-loving, campy drag nuns who invite you to wrap you lips around your cup of choice and slurp, slurp, slurp

the night away.

The Sisters' beverage bust is

Thursday, December 30, at 8 p.m. at Daddy's Bar on Castro Street. Seven dollars buys entry and drinks, and the event will also feature \$1 raffle tickets, a photo exhibit, and a trivia quiz. Suck This! benefits the Sisters' archives project. ▼

- Katie Szymanski

# Shepard murder trials, Boy Scouts ruling, and Canadian Supreme Court decision

# The top 10 gay news stories of 1999

by Rawley Grau, editor Press Pass Q

ecently, Press Pass Q: A Newsletter for the Gay & Lesbian Press Professionals polled its subscribers as to the most important gay-related news stories of 1999. More than 80 people responded – a group that in-cluded publishers, editors, and re-porters at gay and lesbian news-papers and magazines from across the country. Here are their top 10

#### 1. Matthew Shepard's mur-

1. Matthew Shepard's murderers tried and convicted
Nearly six months after
Matthew Shepard was beaten, tortured, and left on a fence to die
outside Laramie, Wyoming, Russell Henderson, 22, one of the two
accused killers, surprised observers by pleading guilty, before
the start of his trial on April 5, to
the kidnapping and murder of the
21-year-old gay college student.
The trial of Henderson's accomplice, Aaron McKinney, 22, took plice, Aaron McKinney, 22, took place in late October, with McKplace in late October, with McK-inney's attorneys resorting to a "gay panic" defense: They argued that their client had attacked Shepard in a drug-induced rage after the gay man tried to grope him. The judge rejected this line of reasoning and on November 3 the jury found McKinney guilty on two counts of felony murder, and one count each of second-de-gree murder, kidnapping, and ag-gravated robbery. In a plea bar-gain, McKinney was spared the death penalty, receiving instead a sentence of two consecutive life terms in exchange for agreeing to waive his right to appeal. Shepwaive his right to appeal. Shep-ard's parents had asked the prose-cutor not to seek McKinney's execution, calling instead for a time of healing to begin.

# 2. New Jersey Supreme Court strikes down Boy Scouts policy

strikes down Boy Scouts policy
On August 4, in a unanimous
decision, the New Jersey Supreme
Court upheld a lower court ruling
that the Boy Scouts of America
had violated the state's civil rights
law when it expelled assistant
scoutmaster James Dale in 1990
because he is gay. This was the
first time a state's high court ruled
against the Scouts' anti-gay policy. The court said that because the
BSA is non-selective in its memcy. The court said that because the BSA is non-selective in its membership and receives support from state and local governments, it cannot exempt itself from the state's civil rights law governing places of public accommodation and therefore cannot discriminate on the beits of convention to the contractive of the properties. on the basis of sexual orientation. Dale, 29, had been involved in Date, 29, had been involved in scouting for 12 years before his expulsion, winning over 30 merit badges and rising to the rank of Eagle Scout. The BSA intends to appeal the New Jersey ruling in the U.S. Supreme Court.

# 3. Canadian Supreme Court

strikes down heterosexual
definition of "spouse"
On May 20, the Supreme
Court of Canada ruled in an 8-1
decision that Ontario's Family Law Act infringed on the Canadi-

an Charter of Rights and Freedoms by restricting its definition of "spouse" to persons who are actually married or "either of a man tually married or "either of a man and woman who are not married to each other and have cohabited ... continuously for a period of not less than three years." The case, M v. H, involved a woman, "M," who was seeking spousal support from her former partner, "H," another woman. The Supreme Court gave Ontario six months to remove the heterosexual definition of "spouse" from its laws. On October 27, the Parliament of Ontario revised 67 statutes, thus extending to same-sex couples all the rights and responsibilities enjoyed by common-law heterosexual couples, mon-law heterosexual couples, including obligations involved in a break-up, adoption procedures, and hospital visitation rights.

mer members of the Royal Armed Forces who claimed that investigations into their sexuality violated their right to privacy. In November, the British Defense Ministry announced that a new military code of conduct would be drawn up as soon as possible.

### 6. California passes

domestic partnership bill
On October 2, California Governor Gray Davis signed into law
a bill that established a domestic partnership registry for same-sex couples and unmarried elderly couples, ensured hospital visitation rights for domestic partners, and provided health benefits for the domestic partners of state employees. California is one of the few states in the union to provide such benefits for state em-



James Hormel, left, is sworn in as ambassador to Luxembourg by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright as his partner Timothy Wu looks on.

#### 4. Jim Hormel becomes ambassador to Luxembourg

On June 4, while Congress was taking its 10-day Memorial Day holiday, President Clinton used his recess appointment privilege to name James Hormel as ambasto name James Hormel as ambas-sador to the Grand Duchy of Lux-embourg, making him the first openly gay U.S. ambassador. The move came in defiance of Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, who, despite its approval by the Foreign Relations Committee, had refused to allow the nomination to come to a vote on the Senate floor, where it was expected to win confirmation. Lott and the conservative Republican leadership claimed that Hormel, a businessman and philanthropist, was un-suitable because he appeared in a Gay Pride parade with the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, a group of gay men dressed as nuns. Clinton had first nominated Hormel to the post in 1997.

# 5. Britain ends ban on gays in the military

gays in the military

The European Court of
Human Rights in Strasbourg
found on September 27 that the
United Kingdom's ban on gays
and lesbians serving in the military was in violation of the European Convention of Human
Rights. The British government
consequently agreed to abide by
the ruling and suspended all current investigations of suspected rent investigations of suspected gays and lesbians. The case heard in Strasbourg involved four for-

### 7. Gay issues prominent in 2000 presidential campaign

As the 2000 presidential cam-paign got off to an early start in the summer, the major presiden-tial candidates couldn't avoid adthat candidates couldn't avoid addressing gay topics. The Democrats, in fact, seemed eager to woo gay voters, with Vice President Al Gore and former New Jersey Senator Bill Bradley giving consecutive interviews in *The Advocate*, coming out against California's anti-gay Knight initiative, and speaking in favor of gay rights in speaking in favor of gay rights in the workplace. Bradley went so far as to suggest that "sexual orientation" be added to the 1964 Civil Rights Act, provoking criticism from gay leaders who feared such a move would detract from efforts to pass the Employment Non-dis-crimination Act. In the Republi-can camp, Texas Governor George W. Bush made conflicting statements about whether he would have openly gay people in his ad-ministration, while Arizona Senministration, while Arizona Sen-ator John McCain met with rep-resentatives from the Log Cabin Republicans. Bush said he would not meet with the group,

# 8. Falwell meets with Mel White and activists, agrees

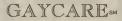
White and activists, agrees to tone down rhetoric On October 24, the Reverend Mel White and 200 other gays and lesbians went to Lynchburg, Vir-ginia, and met with Jerry Falwell and members of his Thomas Road Baptist Church. Falwell told

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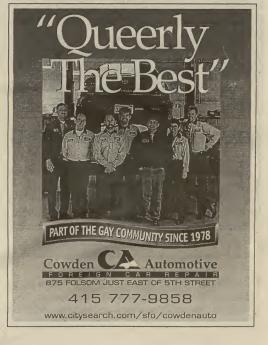


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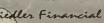
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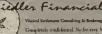
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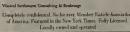
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# Profile of a paradox

# Transsexual lesbian Republican enters Southern California Assembly race

by Katie Szymanski

iz Michael is no moderate.
She believes there is a place for prayer in school, thinks global trade should override economic sanctions, and is opposed to even the most moderate forms of gun control. But associated the sec gun control. But surprising of gun control. But Surprising both the queer and conservative populations alike, Michael is running for the California Assembly in the 43rd District of Glendale and Burbank out of a desire to fight for the rights of sexual minorities. Perhaps it has something to do with the fact that Michael is an openly lesbian transsexual Republican, a combination of iden-

hero of either movement.

Michael, however, says those familiar with her views and desire for political change should not be

for political change should not be shocked by how she identifies.

"Anybody that understands my politics would understand why I'm a Republican," Michael told the Bay Area Reporter. "I couldn't be a Democrat if I tried. I care about things like gun rights, and like free enterwise and free and like free enterprise and free trade, and the Democrats at a na-tional level have made it very clear they don't care about these issues So anybody who believes sincere-

So anybody wno believes sincerely in these issues, as I do, has no other place to go."

But what on earth makes her think the Republican Party is the place for the other issue she cares deeply about, the rights of sexual minorities? And don't her Republican colleagues view her as a bit

"It's a non-issue," said Michael.
"All the media hype with Republicans making anti-gay statements may suggest the contrary, but a lot of people don't understand that those people may be making the most noise, but they are losing the argument."

In fact, insists Michael, most Republicans are very open to gay rights and opposed to ballot mea-sures like the Knight initiative (Proposition 22), on the March 7, 2000 ballot that would limit mar-

"A lot of the people in politics really don't believe homosexuality should be an issue, and many of these – more than you would think – are very conservative peo-ple. I've had many conservative Republicans tell me the Knight initiative has no place on the ballot, but because their money is



Assembly candidate Liz Michael

coming from Christian right groups and the like, they have to

groups and the like, they have to go on record supporting it. And these are pretty hard-core people telling me this."

And while Michael believes in equal rights, she emphasizes that religion should not be forced to condone these rights, including way rights.

gay rights.
"We all want religious freedom. None of us is suggesting that a church should be compelled to endorse gay marriage. However, if this is a civil right in society, then this is a civil right in society, then it's a right gay people ought to have. The religious argument is all well and good, but that's a religious argument. There's no ground upon which to deny that right on a civil level."

Michael, like any good Republican, also does not believe in special rights.

cial rights.

cial rights.
"I'm primarily for fairness. Either you're for anti-discrimination
measures or you're against them,
but be consistent. I have a lot of
friends who don't believe in antidiscrimination laws of any kind,
who believe people should be able
to discriminate if they so choose,
and that's fine. Where I object is
legislation that is reserved for and that's time. Where I object is legislation that is reserved for some people and not for others. I don't want the community of sex-ual minorities to be left out of leg-islation. But on other hand I don't want straight white males to be

covered by hate crimes laws as

covered by hate crimes laws as much as any minority." The religious interference with equal rights legislation does nothing but harm the very valid messages of the Christian right, according to Michael. "I'm very sympathetic to the religious right when we're talking religious freedom issues," said Michael. "I believe a child should be able to pray in school. I believe the government should stay out of religious issues. But when religious issues. But when religious issues. But when religious issues. religious issues. But when religious groups continually center on gay issues and make these peo-ple the scapegoat of everything, they lose their message entirely. And a number of people don't even consider some of the legitieven consider some of the legiti-mate things they may be saying, because they're so busy concen-trating on one set of people." The call for religious legisla-tion, says Michael "dilutes the message of conservatives." "Most people across the coun-try really want the government to

try really want the government to get out of these issues," she said. "It's a cornerstone of the Republi-"It's a cornerstone of the Republi-can ideals to limit government in-terference, not to let government make decisions on who is worthy of certain rights."

The solution, according to Michael, is to elect more Republi-cans from the lesbian, gay, bisexu-

cans from the lesbian, gay, bisexu-al, transgender community. "At that point," she said, "You'll start to see movement on some of these issues. A lot of the gay rights issues are very easy to talk against when the legislators in questions have to talk about 'the opposition.' But it's more difficult to speak against these issues when they're coming from friends and fellow

coming from friends and fellow party members who are very conservative on a lot of issues."

Michael is a prime example of putting this theory to work; in 1990 she won the Republican nomination for an Assembly seat in another district, but at that point she was not openly lesbian or transsexual. Now that she is "out," she says, she continues to gain party support.

gain party support.
"I ultimately believe it will be the Republicans who cause movement on gay issues, even though the Democrats would like to keep the Democrats would like to keep these issues to themselves for elec-torate points," said Michael. "There is a lot of progress hap-pening on gay issues in the Re-publican Party."

Spoken like a true conservative. ▼

# Gay.com provides free Internet access

by Liz Highleyman

arlier this month, the Internet service Gay.com an-nounced that it would pro-vide free, unlimited Internet access for members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender

community.

The free Internet access is pro vided in partnership with 1stUp.com, an affiliate of CMGI, Inc. that provides ad-supported Internet access. Although users will not be charged a fee, they will have a small banner ad and navigation bar placed on their computer desktop while they are using their free account. The ad-sup-

ported Internet access model has become well established in recent years, and is used by large providers such as Geocities.

The free service will allow ers throughout the U.S. and Canada uncensored and unrestricted dial-up access to websites chat rooms, and e-mail. Paid Internet accounts typically cost \$10-20 per month. Accounts will be available to users of Windows 98, Windows 98, and Windows NT (service for Apple users is not cur-rently provided). San Francisco-based Gay.com,

an Online Partners affiliate, provides a popular web portal with headline news, articles, arts and entertainment, travel, relation-

ship, sports, food, health, and financial sections; Internet radio; chat rooms; and online shopping. The site is currently visited ping. The site is currently visited by over 2 million users per month. According to Online Partners' President Mark El-derkin, "Gay.com's gay-friendly ISP [Internet service provider] service is committed to protect-ing the privacy of all members and supports freedom of expresand supports freedom of expression online." ▼

To access the free Internet service, visit www.gay.com, and click on the pop-up window or the "Free Net Access" icon on the top menu bar.

# **Holiday dinner for PWAs**



arry Gilwarg was one of nearly 250 volunteers who served over 1,200 meals at the 12th annual AIDS Emergency Fund Christmas Eve dinner at the War Memorial Building. Two rooms and the balcony were filled with diners, who also enjoyed non-stop entertainment and a visit from Santa.

# Gore open to med pot

by Liz Highleyman

n December 14, Democratic presidential candidate Al Gore indicated that he is open to giving doctors the option to prescribe medical marijuana. "Where the alleviation of pain in medical situations is concerned, we have not given doctors enough flexibility to help patients who are going through acute pain," the vice president stated.

Gore noted that his sister, who died of lung cancer in 1984, had her doctor prescribe marijuana, although she only tried it briefly, without the desired effect of allewithout the desired effect of alle-viating pain. According to Gore, "If it had worked for her, then I think she should have had the ability to get her pain relieved that way." Gore's sister received cannabis under a Tennessee med-ical marijuana research program that was later discontinued.

Gore's remarks, which came in

response to an audience question, were made during a televised town hall forum in Derry, New

Hampshire, the site of the nation's first presidential primary.

Gore emphasized that he would only consider marijuana for certain specific conditions where research shows that pa-tients have no other options, and that he agrees with the Clinton administration's opposition to broader marijuana legalization,



Vice President Al Gore

including recent state medical cannabis initiatives and referenda. At a press conference following

At a press conference following the forum, Gore hedged his earlier remarks, saying that more research on the medical use of cannabis was needed, the position taken by Barry McCaffrey, President Clinton's "drug czar."

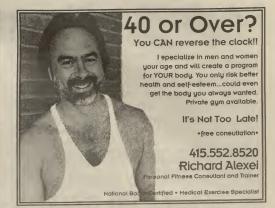
The position of the two major Democratic presidential contenders on medical marijuana is similar. Bill Bradley also recently said in a New Hampshire forum that he was currently opposed to medical marijuana, but supported further study of the issue.

Although the administration has consistently called for more research on medical cannabis,

Gore's remarks came a week after the federal government once again prevented such a study from taking place by denying researchers access to government-grown marijuana. This time, the Department of Health and Human Services rejected a privately funded, FDA-approved study proposed by Dr. Ethan Russo, a Montana neurologist seeking to study the effects of gist seeking to study the effects of cannabis marijuana on migraine

Five days earlier, the DHHS announced new medical marijuana research guidelines that were supposedly intended to streamline the process of studying cannabis. However, a coalition of physicians including former Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders, medical and advocacy organizations including the AIDS Action Council, entertainers including Susan Sarandon and Richard Pryor, and many patients and concerned citizens presented a letter to DHHS Secretary Donna Shalala claiming that the new guidelines were "still too cumbersome to enable research to move forward as expeditiously as possiforward as expeditiously as possi-ble." Chuck Thomas of the Mari-juana Policy Project said that the guidelines "place a much greater burden on medical marijuana researchers than on drug companies that develop and study newly synthesized pharmaceuticals

Shalala said she would continue to defend the new guidelines.





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# **Advocates want state** hearings on women's prisons

by Katie Szymanski

ttorneys for women prisoners who are the victims of poor and sometimes deadly healthcare are calling on the California Legislature to open an investigation into conditions of women's prisons around the state and put the pressure on the Cali-fornia Department of Corrections to provide decent standards of

care for all women inside.

In a three-page statement issued last Tuesday, December 21, the organization Legal Services for Prisoners with Children expressed outrage that 13 women have died at Central California Women's Facility in the past year, and that a court-ordered assessment team found healthcare at CCWF to be adequate despite ob-

serving severe abuse and neglect.
The nursing facility at CCWF

"failed to treat each patient with dignity ... the residents had foul body odors. Their hair was uncombed and looked dirty ... none of the residents appeared to have had oral care for a long period of time," according to an April report issued by the assessment team. Despite these findings, the assessment team gave the facility a mark of approval.

The assessment team was first

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# BAYAREA REPORTER

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# Change needed in 21st century

the 20th century. While major innovations have occurred in the last 100 years, and many rights were won by various groups of Americans, the fact is that as we usher in 2000, the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community still has a way to go

transgender community still has a way to go to achieve equality.

The past year saw significant gains in that area on the local and state levels; and last week's Vermont Supreme Court ruling that same-sex couples in that state must have the same benefits as opposite-sex cou-ples was tremendous. The wall blocking equal benefits for the LGBT community is at last crumbling.

Justice was served to the two killers of

gay Wyoming college student Matthew Shepard; and his parents – notably his mother, Judy – have slowly come into the public eye with messages urging Americans to end the hate and violence against gays.

to end the hate and violence against gays.
Sadly, hate rhetoric is still around, Just
last week, it was revealed in Sports Illustrated how ugly that hate speech is. Atlanta
Braves relief pitcher John Rocker spewed
forth with his anti-gay and racist views. Durforth with his anti-gay and racist views. During a lengthy interview, Rocker took aim at nearly everyone. "Imagine having to take the [number] 7 train to the ballpark, looking like you're [riding through] Beirut next to some kid with purple hair, next to some queer with AIDS, right next to some dude who just got out of jail for the fourth time, next to some? 20 year-old more with four next to some?

who just got out of jail for the fourth time, next to some 20-year-old mom with four kids," the magazine quoted Rocker as saying. Rocker later apologized, but that is not enough. Major League Baseball is dragging its feet on the matter. Commissioner Bud Selig has stated that something will be done "after the holidays." We say, do something now – get rid of John Rocker.
Rocker's tirade has no place in professional sports, which is already slow to deal with homophobia and AIDSphobia. Athletes such as Rocker, and the thankfully-retired football player and homophobe Reggie White, are role models for millions of kids throughout the country whether they like it

or not. It's one of the prices of celebrity, and today's million-dollar athletes are celebrities. Hank Aaron, a former baseball star him-

radik Aaron, a former obsectations are self, and now a vice president with the Braves, has criticized Rocker, as have the Braves nor Major League Baseball has lifted a finger to impose fines – or early retirement – on the project and in any lower property of the project and in any Rocker.

hines – or early retirement – on the racist, anti-gay Rocker.
Gay rights have truly progressed over the last century. There are men like Harry Hay and Frank Kameny. There are lesbians like Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin. There are the Puerto Rican drag queens who were involved with the Stonewall **Editorial** 

riots. People like Larry Kramer, Jeff Getty, the late Reggie Williams, and the late Steve Michael paved the way for AIDS activism that has become a model for other causes around the world. There were gay politicians like the late Harvey Milk, and there are pre-sent-day politicos like Tom Ammiano, Mark Migden, who fight for increased rights for the LGBT community year after year, and who struggle with others – Republican and

Democrat—who aren't yet on the same page.
For the 21st century, we want a country that treats LGBT people equally; we want the hate rhetoric of the Fred Phelpses to end; and we want lawmakers to understand that
equal rights are not special rights.
Everybody, from the struggling gay
teenager to the out and proud dyke
to the tranny trying to find a
job should be valued as equal

to heterosexuals. We dese no less.

Finally, as you head out the door Friday night to ring in the new millennium, please be safe. Don't forget the condoms, don't drink and drive, and be aware of all the wild and crazy celebrants out there. We want you back to enjoy the 21st century.

Happy New Year. ▼



**Guest Opinion** 

# ems = bottoms, GOPers = tops

by Gary Bastian

ife is full of choices: do we dress preppy or butch, are we tops or bottoms, are we Republicans or Democrats? As we approach the millennium, it is interest-ing to look back on the last two decades and review the evolution of gays as a part of the American political landscape.

In the 1980s, the importance of the gay

vote became abundantly clear to the politicians in Washington and all 50 state capitals In the 1990s, a new species, gay Republicans, made their political presence known. The Voter News Service in New York estimated

The difference between gay voters supported GOP candidates for president or Congress.

The difference between gay voters and straight voters is easy to understand. It is a simple matter of sexual orientation: do you like members of the opposite sex or mem-bers of the same sex. The difference between Republicans and Democrats is a little more complex. On a philosophical level, it is about limited, versus expanded, roles for government. On an issues level, it is about honest differences of opinion on school prayer, tax codes, affirmative action, and

ampaign finance reform.

However, when you combine these two elements, homosexuality and politics, a question immediately comes to mind: What are the differences between gay Democrats

are the differences between gay Democrats and gay Republicans?

Sociologists and psychologists debate what makes someone gay. Political scientists study what makes someone a Democrat or Republican. I wonder what makes some gay Americans Democrats and some Republicans? I can identify four areas that will illustrate differences between gay Dems and gay Reps. These

areas are: focus, tolerance, denial, and fairness.
Focus is a matter of how you see yourself in a sexual/political context. Gay Dems seem to view their "gayness" and gay issu

as a major focal point of their life, while gay as a major focal point of their life, while gay Reps see their homosexuality as only on part of their existence. Gay Democrats see themselves as gay voters who happen to be Democrat, while gay Republicans see themselves as Republicans who happen to be gay. Gay Democrats often see a "gay relationship" on issues where gay Republicans do not. For example, gay Dems see abortion as having a gay relationship since it pertains to the government's involvement with one's body. Gay Reps can also see abortion as a religious issue or as an issue of faith and morality. Tolerance: Gay Democrats

Tolerance: Gay Democrats think that gay Republicans should be rounded up by the politically correct police and sent to the North Pole. Gay Reps

support and encourage gay participation in the

Republican Party. Gay Reps are frequently challenged and asked "how can you be a Re-publican?", while gay Dems are not subject-ed to the need to defend their opinions. Gay Reps believe that political diversity in the

Reps believe that political diversity in the gay community is good. Gay Dems seem to be threatened by the two-party system.
Denial: Gay Reps know that the GOP has a lot of homophobia to be cured. Gay Dems overlook bigotry in their party with a defense of "the Republicans are a lot worse."
Gay Dems seem to be in denial about antigay sentiment and policies within their party. They conveniently forget President Clinton's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy regarding gays in the military and Clinton's signing of the ban on gay marriages. Gay Dems love to bash Senator Jesse Helms (R-North Carolina) – who does deserve bashing – but what about all the conservative Democrats who routinely oppose AIDS Democrats who routinely oppose AIDS funding, hate crimes legislation and domestic partnership laws?

Fairness: Gay Reps believe that Washington administrations must be judged fair-

ly, equally, and uniformly. During the 12 years of the Reagan-Bush administrations, gay activists demanded that 10 percent of all federal government appointments and hiring be of gay Americans. There were protests, editorials, and letters in the gay press all screaming that a 10 percent gay. protests, editorials, and letters in the gay press, all screaming that a 10 percent gay population required a quota of 10 percent gay hires. The years of 1980-1992 did not produce the desired 10 percent. But what about the Clinton-Gore administration? Less than 2 percent of the White House staff is openly gay, less than 1 percent of the diplomatic corps/ambas-sadors are gay and no cabinet members are gay. What happened to the 10 percent figure? Did the gay population shrink or do gay activists have a double standard? There are strong differences between gay Reps and gay Dems.

ferences between gay Reps and gay Dems. This is good, this is progressive, and this needs to be championed. We must reject the calls of many gay leaders, who themselves happen to be Democrats, to abandon the Republican Party and all vote the same way. Gay Reps and gay Dems should work to-gether as allies, not as enemies. We are fighting on different battlefields, but in the same

Gay Americans tell straight society that Gay Americans tell straight society that we need the freedom to love who we want without interference or judgment. Gay Republicans, independents, and Libertarians must tell gay society that we need the freedom to vote for whoever we want. It's time dom to vote for whoever we want. It's time to fire the "politically correct" police force in our community, strip them of their pret-ty pink badges, and let all gay voters decide for whom to vote. ▼

Gary Bastian served four terms as a city councilman in upstate New York. He now resides in Atlanta

#### Whose millennium is it?

Whose millennium is it?

In their enthusiastic recounting of all the queer news for 1999, [December 23] Terry Beswick and Katie Szymanski engage in overzealous hyphenation when they refer to "the beginning of the Judeo-Christian year 2000 ... the end of ... the second millennium since an influential, much-worshipped man was born." Jews, of course, worship neither the man in question nor his birthday: by our calendar it is the year 5760, as calculated from the creation of the world in the year 1. We were celebrating the end of millennia long before this much-worshipped man announced that he was dying for everyone's sins and providing them with a theological justification for shopping at Macy's. We have been around for nearly six millennia, causing no end of annoyance to Babylonians, Egyptians, popes, Crusaders, and Inquisitors, not to mention the executive director of the National Organization to Halt the Abuse and Routine Mutilation of Males.

Larry Goldsmith

Mailstrom

[Editor's note: Yeah, we know. That's why we included the phrase, to draw attention to the fact that 2000 is merely Christian hype.

#### Singing the success of the season

Singing the success of the season
Once again I stand amazed and touched by the generosity of our community and your support of "Donna Sachet's Songs of the Season." Together, over the course of two festive nights of holiday music, comedy, and magic, we raised over \$7,000 for the AIDS Emergency Fund, representing the total income after expenses for this event. Needless to say, I could never have done it alone. Whether you joined us as a sponsor, shared your talents on stage, volunteered in production, gave us excellent press coverage (thank you Katie Szymanski), bought tickets and attended, or mailed in a contribution if unable to attend in person, you were an invaluable part of the success we enjoyed. My fondest hope is that the total production joyed. My fondest hope is that the total production and our contribution to the AIDS Emergency Fund

and our contribution to the AIDS Emergency Fund lived up to your expectations.

Thank you for your belief in my dream. You have touched me deeply. May your holiday season be full of happiness and special memories. Although each year I am nearly overwhelmed by this enormous undertaking, I am resolved to assemble another "Songs of the Season" next year during the first weekend in December. I hope that I can count on your continued support.

#### Alice Club's 'respect' during campaign

I had to laugh at the letter from Esther Lee and Dean Goodwin of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian & Gay Democratic Club (B.A.R., December 9) in which they urge us to "engage in the political process with respect" and to work for candidates "in an appropriate and adult manner."

and adult manner."

These are the very same people who, in the week before the present election, mailed out a flyer questioning Tom Ammiano's integrity because he had reportedly received the endorsement of Mara Kopp, Quentin Kopp's wife. The flyer suggests that Ammiano should therefore be associated with Mr. Kopp's opposition to gay marriage, affirmative action, needle exchange, health benefits for domestic partners, and the Gay Freedom Day Parade. At one level this really is laughably pathetic – as though over cocktails with Mara and Quentin some evening, a Mayor Ammiano might be persuaded to, say, ban Gay Pride Week. But leaving aside the profound and despicable dishonesty of this attack upon Ammiano – I dare say dishonesty of this attack upon Ammiano – I dare say no one at the Toklas Club actually fears Ammiano's no one at the Toklas Club actually fears Ammiano's lack of commitment to gay causes – one turns to the equally disturbing deceit of a gay political club that will not declare its real reasons for opposing Ammiano. I have no idea what they are, but I do know that this flyer marks the Toklas Club as one disposed to the most unscrupulous of tactics. "Appropriate and adult," indeed. One would think that their candidate Willie Brown had enough problems with the integrity issue without having their organization step in to muddy the waters further with this "dirty trick."

Mike Black San Francisco

#### When does it end?

When does it end?

[The following was sent to the Gay Financial Network.]

We are responding in reference to an article carried by the Gay Financial Network (gfn.com) that was originally issued by the AFP (Agence France Presse) and posted online on December 13.

Wasn't it enough that Brandon Teena was raped then brutally murdered? We at TRUE are very discounted to the processing of Brandon Teena's and the processing that the processing t

then prutaily murdered: we at 1 NO2 are very dis-mayed at the erasure of Brandon Teena's identity by this story. Brandon Teena was a man. He lived as a man and as such, should be treated as a man. This means using the name and gender he preferred based on who he was inside.

Contrary to popular misconception, a person's gender identity is not determined by what is between their legs, but by who they are inside the body. Is homosexuality determined by one's physical genitals? I doubt that the LGB community will buy that kind of logic about homosexuality. In the gay community, we are frequently misunderstood and often resented despite the fact that is was transgenders who have often proven to be the inspiration and leadership of today's modern eav rights movement.

proven to be the inspiration and leadership of today's modern gay rights movement.

TRUE believes gender identity and presentation is a fundamental human right. Furthermore, we believe everyone has a right to express their gender identity and presentation in any way without fear of harassment, discrimination, or violence.

The award though important as to the fact that it does establish the liability of the Richardson County

Sheriff's Department and specifically Sheriff Laux, the amount of the award is simply more violence per-

the amount of the award is simply more violence perpetrated against a young transgender trying to be the
person he was inside. How many gays and lesbians
have also been the victims of violence and injustice
simply because of who they are inside?
In a way, Brandon Teena was luckier than most. At
least his memory will live on in the two recent
movies. The vast majority of transgendered people
die alone and forgotten. Regrettably, if the press does
pick up the story of a transgendered person's
demise, it is often labeled a gay bashing.
Even more revolting is the lurid, tabloid
style sensationalism often used in reporting the death of a human being that frequently treats the victim as a freak who
deserved to die. deserved to die.

What is totally disgusting and so

what is totally disgusting and so sadly tragic is that Brandon's murder-ers will get more protection and rights under the appeals process than Brandon got from being a law-abiding citizen who happened to be transgender.

Rosalyne S. Montgomery, Founder and Executive Director TRansgenders United for Equality San Francisco

#### Prefers action over acronyms

Prefers action over acronyms

I had mixed emotions when I read Mr. Connolly's "We are one people" letter in the November 25 B.A.R..
I am extremely vocal on the issue of T inclusion. I've no doubt that there are lesbians who identify as "gay womyn." I'm lesbian and I don't mind thinking of myself in those terms.
But, I'm also transsexual.
I do worry about non-inclusive nomenclature. Some of it is the tip of an iceberg of phobia, while some of it is not. However, I agree that getting caught up in the purely visual — worrying about seeing the letters B and/or T and/or Q in all things — is unwise.
The Human Rights Campaign's intransigent stonewalling (double pun intended) regarding inclusion of transgendered people in their mission statement is unconscionable. The T in NGLTF does not stand for transgender, but the task force is as T-inclusive as an or-

transgender, but the task force is as T-inclusive as an organization can get. Yet, if HRC was to suddenly throw a T-into-its acropym, but continued to the suddenly throw a transfer or the suddenly through the sudd T into its acronym but continue to exclude us from their stated mission and to actively oppose transgender inclusion in the proposed federal ENDA, they would still be as transphobic as they are now.

Acronyms are nice, but action is what really matters.

Katrina Rose Albert Lea, Minnesota

#### New Year's in Castro a 'non-event'

Thank you Tortuga Bi Liberty for complimenting MUMC (Merchants of Upper Market and Castro) regarding the street closure for Halloween [Mailstrom, December 23].

However, neither Halloween nor New Year's Eve are "official" street closures in the Castro. Therefore, while I appreciate and thank you it must be noted that since these are "non-events" MUMC can assume no responsibility for street closures or other spontaneous events associated with Halloween or New Year's Eve.

Patrick Batt, President Merchants of Upper Market and Castro

#### Pick up after your pet

A note to my gay brothers and sisters. Next time you are in the park walking your dog, your friend, or yourself, please take along a plastic bag and clean up after your dog, friend, or self. Loitering may seem to be cool – littering is not. The gardeners would say

F. Vic Galvan San Francisco

#### Attention smokers

It is my opinion that most smokers are considerate people. However, if you are a smoker who lights up in a bar in the presence of non-smokers, you are an inconsiderate, self-absorbed person. This is not an opinion, it is a fact. No debate, end of story

Roger Davis San Francisco

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# **Victory in Vermont: Beyond civil rights**

by Dale Carpenter

ome will say the Vermont Supreme Court has freed a few of us at last. It might be few of us at last. It might be more appropriate to say it has bound us at last. Further, in determining that gay couples must be treated legally the same as straight couples, the Vermont court has lighted a path to equality that emphasizes gays' similarity to straight Americans, avoids civil rights dogma, and reinforces the primacy of marriage. That's not a bad day's work for a court that sits in a state court that sits in a state with about as many people as Memphis.

Before we get swept away, however, it's important to note what didn't happen in Baker v. State.

The Vermont court didn't require the state to recognize same-sex "marriages." The state has to give a gay couple the same rights and obligations as a married straight cou-

ple, but it doesn't have to call it

marriage.

Indeed, the state doesn't have to do anything right away. Ver-mont now has a "reasonable period of time" to weigh its choices – during which an effort might be made to override the court's opinion by amending the state consti-tution, as happened in Hawaii. For complex reasons beyond the scope of this column, it's also doubtful other states would have to recognize a Vermont-sanctioned gay re-lationship, whatever it's called. Finally, because of its reliance

on an uncommon provision of the state constitution, the opinion will have little immediate precedential value in other state or federal courts. So, Dorothy, you're

still in Kansas.
Yet the Vermont opinion marks important progress in thinking about gay equality – progress that goes beyond both homophobic prejudices and stale civil rights ideology.

civil rights ideology.

The gay movement focuses on achieving civil rights, but has not much considered the corresponding civil obligations. Marriage is not so lopsided. To be sure, it offers a host of advantages, ranging from health benefit to inhorit from health benefits to inheri-tance rights. But it imposes a con-comitant obligation to care for the other participant, even after the relationship ends. As the Vermont court said, marriage offers "the right to receive, and the obligation to provide, spousal support, maintenance, and property division in the event of separation or divorce"

worce."

Most domestic partner laws in the country provide a nice portion of legal rights (like health benefits) but require little more than signing a document. No wonder no one thinks of domestic partnership as real marriage.

Vermont's state-sanctioned

same-sex relationships, whether called marriages or domestic partner-ships, will be very differ-ent. They will grant hefty privileges and charge a hefty price – the same as any mar-riage. That's a first. It means we're getting some balance in the law. **OutRight** 

The Vermont court's rationale for its decision is also instructive.
The court emphasized that "the marital exclusion treats persons who are similarly situated for purposes of the law, differently." Gay people, the court is saying, are like traight people in all relevant straight people in all relevant senses. So the law can't treat them

the back of a hand to any notion that gays are significantly different from mainstream America – whether that notion comes from the religious right or from the progressive left. We were success-ful in Vermont because the court saw the importance of our simi-larity, not the centrality of our dif-

The Vermont court also eschewed the reliance on feminist theory found in many gay rights decisions and commonly espoused in the gay civil rights movement. The court repudiated the idea that the marital exclusion is just another form of sex dis-crimination (as the Hawaii Supreme Court concluded, for example). It found no evidence that "the authors of the marriage laws excluded same-sex couples be-cause of incorrect and discrimi-natory assumptions about gender roles or anxiety about gender-role

In other words, it is possible for the law to treat men and women "equally" – as by prohibiting both to marry members of their own sex – and yet still single out gays for discrimination. Thus, the Vermont court showed that an approach to gay equality, at least in some cases, need not be teth-

in some cases, need not be tethered to feminism.

Similarly, the court rejected an approach that would treat gays as a special protected class under the law. Under the protected-class approach favored by the civil rights establishment, courts aggressively overturn laws disadvantaging a specified group. In this case, the Vermont court conceptualized marriage discrimination as fencmarriage discrimination as fenc-ing gays out of an important insti-tution. Thus, the court reaffirmed the importance of social inclusion without obsessing about gays' be-

leaguered status as a minority.

Further, the Vermont court achieved its historic result withachieved its historic result with-out undermining marriage's priv-ileged position as the primary means by which our society en-courages stable, committed human coupling. It's clear, for ex-ample, that nothing in the opin-ion commands the Vermont Leg-islature to create a domestic part-nership system for opposite-sex nership system for opposite-sex couples who want to live together but don't want to commit to marriage. And nothing in the opinion

riage. And nothing in the opinion opens marriage to groupings of three, four, or five people or to connubial bestiality.

Finally, the Vermont court models a sensible, incremental approach to major social reform.

The opinion points to the long list of legislative changes in the state—eradicating sodomy laws, adopting anti-discrimination statutes, ing anti-discrimination statutes, protecting adoption rights, etc. – that render senseless the continued resistance to equality in the area of marriage. Those changes came serially, not all at once. One change laid the groundwork for

the next.
Similarly, gay "marriage" will
now be the law in one state, not
all, giving the rest of the country
time to adjust. We may still be in
Kansas, but Topeka won't be quite
the same.

Dale Carpenter, an attorney, is the winner of three Vice Versa awards for excellence in gay writing. He can be reached care of this publication or at OutRight@aol.com. For more OutRight, visit www.Planetout.com.

# Women's prison

dispatched to the CCWF and the dispatched to the CCWF and the California Institution for Women when prisoners filed a federal lawsuit in the spring of 1995, charging that prisoners with serious illnesses were being denied medical care. As part of a settlement, the corrections department agreed to implement 55 steps to improve medical care, and appointed the assessment team to report to the court on the institutions' complicourt on the institutions' complicourt on the institutions' compliance. Reports thus far have found the prisons to be mostly in compliance, even though the team's own observations have shown this not to be the case. The final report has apparently been sent to the court, and, if the prisons are found to be in compliance as expected, the lawsuit will be dismissed and outside observers will no longer be allowed inside. Legal Services for Prisoners with Chil-dren says that if this happens, healthcare inside will continue to deteriorate

"Our fear is that it will be worse for the women once the lawsuit is terminated and the outside assessments stop," Karen Shain, administrative director for Legal Services for Prisoners with Children, told the Bay Area Re-porter. "Even in the few places porter. "Even in the few places where there have been improvements they clearly came about because of outside assessment team. Without this kind of external pressure the internal pressure inst doesn't exist. There is no will to make anything better there."

To prevent any further abuse and neglect, the organization is asking the Legislature to hold hearings that include the testimony of prisoners and their families.

ny of prisoners and their families. Shain said several legislators are

sympathetic to the issue, and the organization hopes to have a date for the hearings by the beginning

for the hearings by the beginning of the year.

The situation inside CCWF culminated with a demonstration in November, following the death of Rosemary Willeby, an HIV-positive prisoner with a weak liver who was forced to take liver-toxic tuberculosis medications.

Willeby was never tested for TB. toxic tuberculosis medications. Willeby was never tested for TB and actually did not have the disease. Her liver failed over a period of months, her bloated body slowly growing more swollen and more painful until she died October 22.

Do you think the Legislature should conduct hearings about healthcare in women's prisons? Call or write your assemblymember or state



# GOP hopes to block **Demo redistricting**

by Wayne Friday

n Sacramento the Democratic Party is firmly in control of the governor's office and both houses of the Legislature. Republicans hold only 15 of the 40 state Senate seats and 32 of 80 Assemblacest. With 131 of 181 Senate seats and 32 of 80 Assembly seats. With likely Democratic victories next year in legislative races, the conservative leaders of the Legislature's GOP minority have apparently decided to put electability of some of their prospective candidates ahead of party ideology and, according to reports from the capital, have begun recruiting more moderates to run for state Senate and Assembly seats next year.

sembly seats next year. Previously, the Senate and As-

sembly Republican caucuses

lican caucuses have usually been controlled by hard-right conservatives who pour caucus money behind candidates who share their anti-abortion, anti-gay, anti-tax, pro-gun, and anti-regulation views. That long-held practice generally meant that the most conservative GOP candidates win prost price. GOP candidates win most pri-maries and retain control of their legislative caucuses, but it often gave Democrats easy victories in some districts that could go either

way in the general election.
Consequently, Republicans, who have held the governor's office for 21 of the past 30 years, have controlled the Assembly for just controlled the Assembly for just two of those 30 years, and have not controlled the state Senate during that time. With a Democratic gov-ernor and likely Democratic leg-islative victories again next year, however, Republicans face the prospect of Democratic gerry-manders of congressional and leg-islative districts after the 2000 census, a process that could cement Democratic control of the Legisla-ture at least through the year 2012. Since Sacramento Republicans

that could create a deadlock that would put the redistricting issue in the hands of the courts, GOP legislative leaders have reportedly legislative leaders have reportedly decided it is time to try something other than the usual route of putting up only the most conservative candidates in some legislative districts. Though the current GOP legislative leaders – Orange County Republicans Ross Johnson in the Senate and Scott Baugh in the Assembly – are both partisan the Assembly – are both partisan conservatives and seem unlikely to be part of any effort to recruit more moderate GOP candidates, both claim to be doing just that in hopes of possibly taking control of the Assembly. That's a political long shot, but if it occurred, would deny Governor **Gray Davis** and the Democratic-controlled Legis-lature of being totally in charge of

lature of being totally in charge of rearranging legislative and con-gressional districts.

Are the Republicans seriously recruiting more "moderate" can-didates that could possibly win in swing districts in the March 7 pri-mary election? Democratic leg-islative leaders point to at least. islative leaders point to at least one such case – in the 11th state Senate District currently held by Democratic liberal **Byron Sher** of Palo Alto. In that district, the GOP has apparently convinced a Republican who supports abortion

rights to run in the hopes of tak-ing that "swing" district from the Democrats. However, in some other districts, such as in the San Joaquin Valley and some coastal areas, Democrats have recruited more "conservative" candidates

and can play the same game.
As to whether or not the Re-As to whether or not the Kepublicans can find enough "acceptable" moderate candidates to run to possibly win control of one of the two legislative houses next year, Republican leaders Johnson and Baugh admit they probably face long odds, but are "hopeful" about their prospects. Governor

prospects. Governor
Davis, state Senate
Pro tem John Burton, and other Democratic leaders, mean

while, feel confident they **Our Man Friday** will keep their current legislative majorities, possibly add to them, and be in firm control of redistricting after the 2000 census.

#### Politics and people

No sooner had the Vermont Supreme Court ruled last week that gay couples there were enti-tled to the same benefits and privtled to the same benefits and privileges that are afforded to heterosexual couples, than the homophobic, right-wing groups across the country were warning that the ruling would "corrupt marriage." "This [ruling] really represents a slap in the face for marriage between man and woman," cried the conservative American Center for Law and Justice of Virginia.

Law and Justice of Virginia.

In California, supporters of Proposition 22, the so-called Knight initiative that would deny marriage to same-sex partners, warned that the Vermont ruling crystallizes "the issue that there is a very real threat of another state enacting a new definition of marriage that could impact California" Bullera. These requestion nia." Bullcrap. There's no question that most Americans overwhelmingly believe marriage is a union between men and women. And that's not about the change, at least not anytime soon. Indeed, the Hawaii Supreme Court set off national outcry in 1993 when it ruled that denying same-sex mar-riage licenses amounted to sex discrimination under the state

constitution.
In frantic response, Congress and some 30 states passed laws, essentially saying marriage applies solely to heterosexual couples. In 1998, Hawaii's voters approved a constitutional amendment to that constitutional amendment to that effect, which the Hawaiian high court upheld earlier this month. The Proposition 22 supporters in California can relax – the Vermont Supreme Court's decision doesn't force other states to do anything. Indeed, it doesn't even order Vermont's legislators to provide some search and the support of the states of the content of the support of the suppo vide same-sex marriage, but it does say they must provide equivalent benefits for same-sex couples, something that is long overdue, and something that more than 1,000 businesses already do at very little cost.

As for the latest numbers on

the anti-gay Knight initiative, a Field Poll released last week shows that support among California voters for Proposition 22 has in-creased by a negligible 1 percent-age point in the past two months: 51 percent of the Field Poll respondents favor Proposition 22, 40 percent oppose it, and 9 percent remain undecided.

Incidentally, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors last week voted unanimously to oppose Proposition 22, while the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, voted 3-2 to oppose the Knight initiative (the three Democrats on the five-member panel voted against it, the two GOP members voted in force of it.)



DA Terence Hallinan

San Francisco elections officials last week confirmed that District Attorney **Terence Hallinan** had indeed won re-election, beating challenger **Bill Fazio** by less than 2,000 votes out of nearly 210,000 ballots cast. Hallinan, ever the graceful winner, was whining to reporters that "no one ever wants to give me credit" for winning an election on his own, referring to the fact that he once again won on the coattails of a strong mayoral candidate. Hey Kayo, it doesn't take a brain sur-

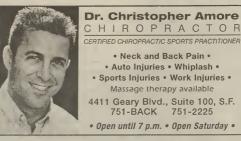
strong mayorar candidate. They Kayo, it doesn't take a brain surgeon to figure this out, even Tom Ammiano was publicly taking credit for pulling the embattled Hallinan back into office.

Reports out of Arizona Senator John McCain's campaign have the gay and lesbian Log Cabin Republicans contributing some \$40,000 or so to the McCain effort to gain the GOP presidential nomination. I realize McCain is probably the best of a bad lot (of GOP hopefuls) but do you really want to give that kind of money to a guy who disagrees with the recent Vermont Supreme Court ruling, has always voted against anything that even comes Court ruling, has always voted against anything that even comes close to pro-gay legislation in Congress, thinks the failed Clin-ton "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy for gays in the military is just fine, and refuses to commit to ap-pointing any qualified openly gay or lesbian to a government posi-tion should he become president? Other than the occasionally friendly smile and the begrudging agreement to even meet with gays is McCain really any better on our issues than say, Gary Bauer, Steve Forbes, Orrin Hatch, or

George W. Bush?
Finally, something to consider as you get ready to celebrate the new millennium. While the seizure of bomb-making materi-als at the U.S.-Canadian border obviously calls for a calm, deliberobviously caus for a caim, deinber-ade response, our government has wisely advised Americans both at home and abroad to be on the alert. Reasonable caution is prob-ably in order, but panic most cer-tainly is not. Enjoy yourselves this weekend

Happy New Year everyone. ▼





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# An American journey

The best and the worst

by Will Shank and U.B. Morgan

iven the gift of a moment to reflect on the state of the union at the end of the century, we seized it this fall, by making a vermicular 3,700-mile trek across the country. Our goal was to jam into eight days every road-side attraction within our reach, from the sublime (Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater in Western Pennsylvania) to the ridiculous Pennsylvania) to the ridiculous

Pennsylvania) to the ridiculous (the birthplace of Paul Lynde in Mt. Vernon, Ohio).

We started in our nation's capital, where we observed, at the Smithsonian, the conservation of Old Glory, as financed by Ralph Lauren. Leaving Washington in our rear-view mirror, we headed north to York, Pennsylvania, the first capital (1777) of the U.S. and current home of the York Barbell first capital (1777) of the U.S. and current home of the York Barbell Company, the manufacturer that helps make our country strong at gyms across the land. Bob Hoffman's Weight-lifting Hall of Fame inspired us only briefly, since by Day Two we had already given into subsiding on the fast food of Generica. After a stop in Pittsburgh, formerly an urban ioke. burgh, formerly an urban joke, and now a gleaming new city, birthplace of Andy Warhol and now the home of a museum ded-icated to him, we rolled into West Virginia. There, we discovered not only one of America's first suspension bridges, but also much to our surprise in coal-mining coun-try, an enclave of meditation at "America's Taj Mahal," the Hare Krishnas' Golden Temple on a hilltop in Moundsville, a true tes-

timony to freedom of religion.

A serpentine journey through Ohio led us to the largest cuckoo clock in America (in Alpine, "Switzerland Over Here"), but alas, our search for the largest wheel of cheese in Ohio's Amish country ended in disappointment. The curds and whey had suc-cumbed to mold since the time that our guidebook was written. Tragic too were our searches for any sign of acknowledgment of Paul Lynde in his hometown, and raut typide in this holitetowit, and for Big Muskie, the largest electri-cal backhoe in the world, which was being dismantled as we ar-rived in Cumberland. Although the locals did not find it strange the locals did not find it strange that two men in a Miata with out-of-state plates were searching for their backhoe, the town's only claim to fame was gone, and even postcards were hard to find.

Our great epiphany came, of all places, two hours south of Indianapolis, when we drove into Columbus, Indiana. Having been through every loop, past every Olive Garden, Cracker Barrel, and



Pro-gay graffiti at "Reverend" Fred Phelps's church in Topeka, Kansas.

Walmart in the Midwest, our faith was restored by this little town that did it right. In 1957 the Cummins Engine Company offered to pay the architectural fees for municipal buildings as long as distinguished national architects were used. As a result this town boasts a library by I.M. Pei, several Saari-nen structures, and a Richard Meier elementary school, to name just a few. The resulting civic pride in a town with no franchise stores is palpable.

Saarinen's arch in St. Louis

marked the halfway point in our journey and started our westward expansion toward the Elvis is Alive Museum and Fifties Cafe in Wright City, Missouri. Well worth

wright City, Missouh. Well worth a visit; don't ask. Driving into Kansas, we real-ized that a trip on 1-70 would not be complete without paying a visit to the "Reverend" Fred Phelps in Topeka. This was the second visit for one of us to this evil site, and for one of us to this evil site, and in the meantime, a huge banner had been attached to the Westboro Baptist "Church" advertising Phelps's despicable homophobic website. Midway through Kansas, the Greyhound Hall of Fame (the dog, not the bus) in Abilene provided welcome relief from the survivided welcome relief from the survivid rounding Republican holy ground of Dwight Eisenhower and Bob Dole. And in Lucas, a concrete backyard shrine and masterpiece of folk art, "The Garden of Eden," symbolizes all that is truly wacky and achievable when an eccentric individual gets an idea in his head. Its creator Samuel Dinsmoor has also been on display there in a glass coffin since 1932.

From Kansas, we went to Ne-braska with a specific destination in mind. As roadside monuments in mind. As roadside monuments go, Carhenge (in Alliance) is truly in a class of its own. The result of a family reunion 12 years ago, this re-creation in junked automobiles of Stonehenge is a spiritual shrine to America's car culture. The autumn winds howled around the starked auton, rattling the sheet

stacked autos, rattling the sheet metal in a strange sort of music. The mercury dipped to 7 de-grees in Laramie, Wyoming, that night. Our motel was just around the corner from the Albany Coun-

ty Courthouse, where the Matthew Shepard murder trial was in its final days. No one in Laramie was final days. No one in Laramie was interested in attending the closing arguments of the lawyers for the alleged killer or the lawyer for the victim. Laramie just wanted it all to go away. No one could, or would, direct us to the part of town where young Matthew Shepard had been recovered, near death, from a fence post, just one year earlier on another cold autumn pight. No one would point tumn night. No one would point us toward the bar where Aaron

us toward the bar where Aaron McKinney, now on trial for murder, had first met his victim and lured him away toward his fate.

Only the press corps were interested in talking to us about the Shepard case, the locations, the cast of characters. Laramie itself Shepard case, the locations, the cast of characters. Laramie itself seemed to be a town with a broken spirit because of the cloud hanging over it. It was the opposite of civic pride. We felt compelled to attend the trial, but a strange blur resulted between truth and illusion, between the scene we had witnessed and the press coverage of it. Having sat in the courtroom behind the Shepards, having stood in line in the men's room behind McKinney's grandfather, we found the National Public Radio coverage of the event to exist on another plane of reality, even though we had seen the reporter who submitted his version of the facts to the radio program. We left Laramie in silence, unable to give words to the experience for several hours. Ahead lay the dramatic landscape of the barren Wyoming plane and the ever-present blue sky.

We began to reflect in Utah upon the best and worst aspects of this vast country. We struck it rich on a one-armed bandit in Elko, Nevada, and began our descent, happily, from the Sierra back

Nevada, and began our descent, happily, from the Sierra back down into the Land of Oz. ▼

Will Shank is a regular contributor to the B.A.R. arts section; U.B. Morgan's film The Bradfords Tour America pre-miered at the Washington, D.C. gay and lesbian film festival in October. Its website is www bradfordstour america.com.

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### 1999 in review

**◀** page 1

transgender person was announced July 1; Emmon Bodfish, previously known as Margaret Bodfish, was found bludgeoned to death in his posh home. The circumstances around Bodfish's death remain a mystery; his son, Max Wills, killed himself in a Southern California motel room just a day after the murder, and police to this day say there is nothing but speculation about who (including Emmon himself) would want Bodfish dead.



Emmon Bodfish

In Happy Valley, the bodies of men Gary Matson and Wingay men Gary Matson and Win-field Mowder were found in the couple's home on July 1. Matson and Mowder were later found to have been allegedly shot by broth-ers Benjamin and Tyler Williams, the same men suspected of torching Sacramento Jewish Synagogues.

California prisons were ex-posed even further as inhumane posed even further as innumane dungeons; a gay man was strangled to death at Corcoran State Prison on July 2, the same place where guards staged "gladiator fights" between rival gang members and punished prisoners by placing them in a cell-with a rapist known as "The Booty Bandit." A video chought that the videous the prisoners by placing them in a cell-with a rapist known as "The Booty Bandit." A videous chaught at the videous that the videous the prisoners by the prisoners are provided that the videous the prisoners are prisoners as the prisoners are provided that the videous that the videous the prisoners are prisoners as the prisoners are prisoners. known as "The Booty Bandit." A video showed that the violent attack against gay prisoner James Mahoney lasted over an hour and was not interrupted by prison authorities, who were sitting in a tower directly above the yard where it took place.

Journalist Bruce Mirken was found not to have attempted land.

found not to have attempted lewd acts with a minor when San Francisco Superior Court Judge Rudolph Loncke dismissed all charges on July 7. Mirken, known for his articles on queer youth, had engaged in a sexually suggestive eronal exchange with an undercover cop posing as a 13-year-old boy, apparently in hopes of writing a story about the young man.

San Francisco biker Franco

San Francisco biker Franco Martin was hit by a stolen car during a police chase on July 12. The driver of the car, Jibao Washington, then decided to run Martin over in an attempt to flee authorities. Martin died 51 days later.

Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center held its

Young, Loud, and Proud Conference from July 9-11, attracting over 600 LGBT youth from around the country. The conference from July 9-10 from around the country.

ence, held at Mission High School, featured workshops for youth organizing, safer sex, tranny training, and combating stress and depression. Board of Super-

and depression. Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano spoke, and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence served breakfast.

United Airlines finally decided to grant domestic partnership benefits to its employees on July 30; the queer boycott was called off, United started taking out fullon, onlied started taking our ful-page pro-gay ads in publications, and all looked rosy until the re-lentless company reared its ho-mophobic head to challenge

mophobic head to challenge everything once again.

The Department of Public Health issued a **syphilis alert** on July 29 to Bay Area gay men involved in a certain Internet chat room; about five cases were identified and linked to the site. Some gay activists called the DPH alert over-dramatic and homophobic.

over-dramatic and homophobic. LGBT people gathered to "Save the Castro" on July 24, at a meeting with merchants and residents designed to address fears that the historic neighborhood is that the historic neighborhood is losing its character to chain stores and tourists. A few days later, queers joined the movement to "Save KPFA" in Berkeley; the listener-supported radio station was seized by its operating company, Pacifica, in an attempt to kill free speech. And leather folk had their own way of preserving gay tradition; on July 25, the "Up Your Alley" street fair was held in SOMA's Dore Alley, featuring public floggings and tons of eye candy and benefiting queer activism around the Bay Area.

August

The Castro got huffy over proposed plans for a queer youth shelter at 2500 Market Street; Supervisors Mark Leno and Leslie Katz brought the proposal to the table at an August 5 town meeting and committed \$250,000 of city funds to the project. The shelter was to be a safe space for queer youth, who are at higher risk of suicide than heterosexual youth, and cide than heterosexual youth, and who are often homeless because they have had to flee abusive circumstances or were abandoned by their family for being gay. But neighbors complained that the shelter would attract vagrancy and more homelessness, and in the end, months later, the idea crumbled. The deadline for filing to be

a mayoral candidate came and went; in all, 13 people enlisted to challenge Willie Brown, including openly gay and lesbian candidates Jim Reid and Lucrecia Bermúdez.

Tom Ammiano, in his decision not to run, was considered to be "out of the race," and Brown breathed a deep sigh of relief.

SOMA nightclubs were under fire for noise levels and for being the sites of various GHB incidents and overdoses; On August

Mayor Frequen met with club 9, Mayor Brown met with club owners and promoters for the End Up, 1015 Folsom, the Pleasure-dome's Club Universe, and others to address what they perceived as



Members of the LGBT Community Center's board of directors accepted \$100,000 from the Tavern Guild in August.

unwarranted police harassment. A few weeks later, four men overdosed on GHB, two at the End Up and two at the Pleasuredome. But club owners were quick to point out that a certain level of respon-sibility must remain with the customer who smuggles stuff in or enters in an altered state. **Buford O. Furrow Jr.**, the

man who opened fire on a Jewish day care center in Los Angeles, said he had planned to stop in at a San Francisco gay bar for another shooting spree but was arrested before he could grace us with his presence.

presence.
The Tavern Guild donated \$100,000 to the LGBT Community Center Project on August 20.

Sonoma County declared its 1,000 AIDS death on August 27

and marked the occasion with a memorial ceremony.

memorial ceremony.

A transgender psychiatrist was found dead at a San Mateo clinic on August 16, the apparent victim of suicide. Dr. Shoshanna Gillick was found hanging from a ceiling beam by co-workers. Gillick was a well-respected doctor who herself had been battling

depression, according to her lover

and family members.

Lucrecia Bermúdez began her campaign to make mayoral debates inclusive of all the candidebates inclusive of all the candidates; armed with a bullhorn and many supporters, she interrupted the debates between the three "front-runners" Willie Brown, Clint Reilly, and Frank Jordan, and demanded to be heard. She was hauled away by security and/or police on more than one occasion.

With the news that Clint Reilly used the same law firm as the anti-gay ballot measure authors

anti-gay ballot measure authors for the Knight initiative, the B.A.R. learned that in fact, every-one used the same firm; gay-backed measures such as the Sunshine initiative also went through Bagatelos & Fadem, who are

specialists in legislation. Time to shop around, guys ... Finally, our Bay Area friends reported that their time at Michi-gan Womyn's Music Festival took a turn this year; for the first time, transgender women were al-lowed into the women-only space. Of course, their very presence

page 12 ▶



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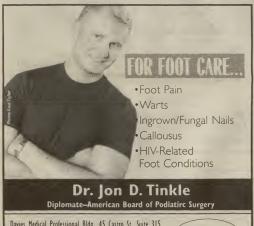
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#### 1999 in review

**◄** page 11

caused alarm and rift; the main argument coming down to geni-talia and the lack of a girlhood ex-perience. Even chicks with fake dicks and girls who identified as fag-dykes found themselves under attack from the old school, and the policy is not expected to be rewritten in stone any time soon Still, most participants agreed, the controversy opened up muchneeded dialogue about what constitutes a "woman."

#### September

Kicking off the month was Oakland's "Stonewall 30" cele-Oakland's "Stonewall 30" cele-bration, an East Bay Pride extrav-aganza from September 1-6 that featured a necklace of pink lights around Lake Merritt, a gay Mardi Gras, speakers, awards, dances, and street fairs. Thousands of people attended. mon and Catholic churches, and other longtime anti-gay ideologues. In comparison, the No on Knight

In comparison, the No on Knight campaign reported raising only about \$900,000.

Speaking at an October 2 black-tie Los Angeles fundraiser for Access Now for Gay and Lesbian Equality, **President Bill Clinton** said he "wished he could have done better" on gay rights during his administration.

during his administration.
Following the ANGLE dinner,
Governor Gray Davis signed into
law the last of four bills in an historic gay rights package recently passed during the first De-mocratically-controlled legislative session in 16 years under a Democratic governor. The Employ-ment and Housing Non-dis-crimination Act (AB1001) from Assembly Speaker Antonio Vil-laraigosa (D-Los Angeles) adds "sexual orientation" to the list of protected classes, including race, ethnicity, and gender, in the Fair Employment and Housing Act;



Governor Gray Davis

people with AIDS and other disabilities whose health has stabiabilities whose health has stabilized to return to work without losing their MediCal health benefits. Vetoed was Migden's HIV case reporting bill that would have created a confidential system of reporting HIV cases to health officials, seen as a compromise to reporting the actual names of in-

officials, seen as a compromise to reporting the actual names of individuals testing positive.

Sexually confused Michael Johnston of Kerusso Ministries, an "ex-gay ministry" group hosting an October 11 "National Coming Out of Homosexuality Day" event in San Francisco, was the recipient of two blueberry pies, unceremoin San Francisco, was the recipient of two blueberry pies, unceremoniously tossed into his face by two local men. The activists were hauled out by San Francisco police officers, cited for battery, and released. "Former lesbian" Yette Cantu was also at the event.

In mid-October, after passing up the opportunity to announce his candidacy for mayor in time to be on the November 2 general election ballot, San Francisco Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano finally responded

Tom Ammiano finally responded to a months-long grassroots "Run, Tom, Run" campaign and declared his candidacy as a write-in. The former school board president, a former school board president, a longtime community activist and schoolteacher, called his chances of making it into the December 14 runoff "an extremely long shot." An all-volunteer "Win, Tom, Win" insurgency sprang into action, registering thousands of new voters out of Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint in the Castro.

Officials with the \$12 million Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Community Center, slated to open in early 2001, staged an October 20 ceremonial ground-

October 20 ceremonial **ground-breaking** at the center's Market

breaking at the center's Market Street construction site.

Also October 20, the Reverend Edward Sherriff, openly gay pastor of the Cathedral of Promise Metropolitan Community Church in Sacramento, was found stabbed to death in his home. Police said one of his two wehicles stolen in the incident had been found but his killers were. een found, but his killers were

still at large.

A San Francisco Superior A San Francisco Superior Court jury on October 28 found former Navy sailor **Steven Nary**, 22, guilty of second-degree murder while using a weapon in the death of a 54-year-old gay publisher. Nary was 18 when he went to the home of Juan Pifarre, 54, when the second in section of the second where the two engaged in oral sex before Nary brutally attacked Pi-farre in what he called "self defense" against the older man's de-mands for anal sex. Nary was later sentenced to 16 years to life.



Michael Williams celebrates at the Stonewall 30 event in Oakland.

The murder trial of **Edgard Mora** began September 7; the man accused of punching Brian Wilmes outside the gay bar the Loading Dock in 1998 pleaded not guilty to assaulting Wilmes and calling him a "faggot." Wilmes hit his head on the concrete and died two days later; Mora's family and friends testified to his alcoholic blackouts and said he did not have a problem with gay people. not have a problem with gay people. The case ended with a hung jury on September 30 and has still not been re-tried.

not been re-tried.

San Francisco celebrated the opening of the St. James Infirmary, a sex-worker healthcare clinic at 356 7th Street that provides non-judgmental services to people in any field of the sex industry. Other than a clinic in Los Angeles for people who work in adult films, this clinic is the only one of its kind in the country.

one of its kind in the country.
In an historic move, Democratic presidential candidates Bill Bradley and Al Gore came out as opposed to the gay marriage ban known as the **Knight initiative**. Due to the SOMA bar crack-

downs, the annual pansexual "Feast," held at the Power Ex-

change, was canceled.

Leather Pride Week began with the Leather Pride Walk, which raised \$15,000 for local causes, and culminated with the Folsom Street Fair on September 26, the largest pour set with 26, the largest one yet with 200,000 attendees. The area's oldest leather group, the Society of Janus, celebrated its 25th anniver-sary the same weekend.

#### **October**

Campaign filing statements re-vealed in early October that as of September 30, the campaign to pass the so-called **Knight initiative**, the March 7, 2000 state ballot measure that would ban future recognition of same-sex marriage in California, had raised \$3,863,165.04, with the lion's share coming from the Morthe California Domestic Part-nership Act (AB26) from As-semblywoman Carole Migden (D-San Francisco) allows co-habiting same-sex couples to for-mally register their partnerships with the secretary of state, and ex-tends eligibility for health benefits to the partners of state workers; the California Student Safety and Violence Prevention Act (AB537) from Assemblywoman (AB537) from Assemblywoman Sheila Kuehl (D-Santa Monica) permits students who have been victims of anti-gay discrimination or harassment to file a complaint or narassment to the a compaint with the state superintendent of public instruction, who may punish offending local officials or students; and, signed by Davis on September 30, the Hate Crimes Penalty Enhancement Act (AB208) from Assemblyman Wally Knox (D-Los Angeles) increases the principum anoralty for creases the minimum penalty for murders motivated by the victim's

the California Domestic Part-

sexual orientation, gender, or disability to life without parole.

There were 2,574 cases of LGBT domestic violence reported across the country in 1998, according to a report from the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs. Due in part to higher reporting rates one fourth of the reporting rates, one fourth of the cases reported nationally took place in San Francisco, said the re-

prot released October 5 by Com-munity United Against Violence. On October 9, Governor Davis signed two progressive AIDS-re-lated bills, and vetoed another the next day. After it was seriously wa-tered down to win his approval, Davis signed a **needle exchange** bill from Assemblywoman Kerry Mazzoni (D-San Rafael) which Mazzoni (D-San Rafael) which provided no funding for needle exchanges, but allowed cities to establish needle exchange programs without fear of criminal prosecution under state law. Also signed was AB155, the "Workforce Entry/Re-Entry" bill from Micelan which peaker it encire for Migden, which makes it easier for

#### November

When the dust settled and all the write-in votes were finally counted after the November 2 general election, incumbent Mayor Willie Brown had taken first place, garnering 40 percent of the vote. Write-in candidate and Board of Supervisors President

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#### **OBITUARY POLICY**

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization — and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name or the back. If you Include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Jim Helm July 7, 1967 - December 19, 1999



Jim passed away at his home in Wal-

Jim passed away at his home in Waland the home in Waland pecember 19, after a two-year struggle with AIDS. He was 32. A lifelong resident of the Bay Area, Jim was born in San Francisco and raised in the East Bay. After graduating from high school in Concord, Jim moved back to the City, where he worked until the early '90s. He then moved back to the Walnut Creek area where he held a serries of jobs, including caregiver, interior design, and finally bartending. He bartended at the Club 1220 in Walnut Creek until his illness forced him to stop working.

Jim will be remembered for his im-

peccable style and quick but sharp sense of humor. He loved dancing, Disneyland and Debbie Reynolds.

Jim is survived by his mother, Charlene Murietta of Walnut Creek, his aunt Ann Devries of Moraga, his aunts, uncles and cousins in Petaluma, the corner at the 1220, his partner in crime, Sheri E. Ware, and companion/friend Dean Bever.

A memorial celebration of his life will be held at Club 1220 on January 2, 2000 at 2pm. Call (925) 938-4550 for information.

Ralph Nathaniel McGee



Ralph died without despair at Davies Medical Center. Before and after his AIDS diag-nosis in 1997, Ralph lived vi-brantly and with inspiring positivity inspiring positivity Ralph was a dear, affable per-

dear, attable person. If you were a friend or client in need, Ralph was who you'd want to talk to. He mixed attitude and loving atti-

His aesthetic sense is missed: in His aesthetic sense is missed: in what he wore, how he decorated, the landscapes and aquaria he designed, his hair color. A rave-head to the end, Ralph was wildly gyrating, shiny black with sweat, at Come-Unity days before he died.

Beloved friend to many communi-ties: Martin de Porres House, drug use researchers; the homeless and mentally ill of San Francisco, Merced, Mariposa and Maui; the Mondo Casa clan; his ashram-mates; and the Grant Court kids of Long Branch, New Jersey. Ralph is survived by his father, Ralph Sr.; sisters Debra, Karen, Joyce, Cynthia, and Lisa; brother Donald; Godparents Lucille and Johnny; God-

children Jade and Krishna; and many other relations. He shared a special love and devotion with Amy and Bob of Merced, California, and Jim, John and

Dob.
A memorial service will be held on
Sunday, January 16, 2000 at 2pm at
Martin de Porres House of Hospitality,
225 Potrero Ave. (at 15th St.). For more
information, contact Jim Haber at (415)
282-6580.
Donations

Donations may be made to the AIDS Emergency Fund, 1540 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94102.

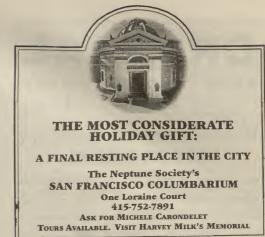
**Dennis James Wilbely** October 13, 1945 December 20, 1999



December 20, 1999

Dennis James Wilbely was born in Newark, New Jersey in 1945. He spent his early years in the boxing ring fighting under the name of "Heavy." At one time Dennis worked as George Forman's sparring partner. He devoted his later years to the things he loved most — poetry, painting, and studying the word. Dennis was a warm, gentle, loving man who was fiercely loyal to his friends and family. He gave himself fully to life, sharing his thoughts, laughter, riches and creativity with the world.

On December 20th, with friends, family and his doctor by his side, Dennis Wilbely died from complications from AIDS. He will be greatly missed by his cousin Geraldine McFadden, his Mormon Church Family, and his many friends. Dennis fought a good fight, and we know he is enjoying a much-deserved sweet sleep in the arms of Our Lord. In on of his poems Dennis wrote, "I want to do something special today." His friends remember him as someone who created something special everyday.





# Dirty tricks hit No on Knight campaign

#### by Terry Beswick

n the December 24 San Francisco Chronicle, columnists Phil Matier and Andy Ross reported that the No on Knight campaign did not act quickly campaign did not act quickly enough to secure the www.No OnKnight.com website address. Instead, someone else snapped it up, and created a website with a link to the North American Man-

Boy Love Association.
"The whole thing is disgusting,

reprehensible," said Tracy Conaty, spokesperson for the No on Knight campaign, which has been using a similar website address, www.NoOnKnight.org, for months. Although Matier and Ross reported that the official campaign in favor of the Knight initiative which would han recover. initiative, which would ban recognition of gay marriages in California, had created the website with the pederast link, Conaty said that the No on Knight campaign has been unable to confirm that.

Robert Glazier, spokesperson for the Protection of Marriage campaign, denied that his campaign had set up the website with the NAMBLA link. Asked for comment, he told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "You can record that I am giving an incredulous chuckle. It's rage that I'm speechless but It's rare that I'm speechless, but the only comment I can make is that this campaign is about making sure that marriage stays be-tween a man and a woman."

"Whoever it is, it's dirty, un-ethical tricks," said Conaty.

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# **Pentagon**

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These commanders have used complaints of harassment by their complaints of harassment by their subordinates "as evidence of or an admission that the person (who complained) is gay" he said. "We are telling commanders that they should be investigating the harasser," Bacon said.

According to military regulations, a serviceman or woman who has "stated that he or she is a who has stated that he or she is a homosexual or bisexual, or words to that effect ... shall be separated from the armed forces."

On December 18, the Penta-

gon sent a memo to the services requesting updated training guidelines and urging military leaders to issue a clear indictment of harassment against homosexu-

al servicemen and women.
"It is important that the leadership of each of the services issue a strong statement to the field that harassment of service members for any reason, to include alleged or perceived homosexuality, will not be tolerated, and that commanders are expected to take prompt, appropriate action against individuals involved in such behavior," the memo said.

# BAY AREA REPORTER

news you can use

# Top 10 stories

**◄** page 3

the gathering that, although he would not change his view that homosexuality is sinful, he would try to tone down his anti-gay rhetoric. No food or lemonade was served at the gathering, as had originally been planned; instead, there were only small bottles of mineral water. Falwell had been reprimanded by some evangelicals for planning to share a meal with "sexually immoral" people.

# 9. Congress fails to pass hate crimes legislation

On November 17, the Repub-can congressional leadership killed the Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 1999, with the White House making no attempt to save it. The hate crimes legislation had been passed in the Senate in July as part of the Commerce, State, and Justice appropriations bill, but it was not part of the House version of the bill and was omitted in conference in the version that went to President Clinton to sign. The president, however, ve-toed the bill. Last-minute efforts to revive the hate crimes law failed as the White House agreed in ne-gotiations with Republican lead-ers to let the bill die.

#### 10. United Airlines surrenders in dispute over San Francisco domestic partnership ordinance

In late July, United Airlines announced it will offer full doaminuteed it will other full admensitic-partnership benefits to its gay employees. The announcement came after two years of court battles between the Air Transport Association, which represents the major airlines, and the city of San Francisco, which

in 1997 passed a law requiring the companies it does business with – including those that lease its airport – to offer domestic-partnership benefits equivalent to the benefits offered married spouses. In May, a federal judge upheld the city ordinance and ordered the airlines to offer certain benefits. The ATA asked the judge to post-pone the effect of that decision pending appeal, but on July 30 the request was denied. Soon after United's announcement that the company would offer part-nership benefits beginning in the company would only par-nership benefits beginning in May 2000, two other major air-lines, American and U.S. Airways, said they, too, will offer domestic-partnership benefits.

For more information about Press Pass Q, or to subscribe to the newsletter, contact PressPassQ@aol.com.



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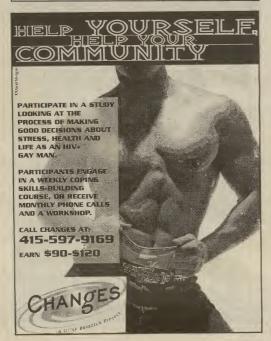




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# One in 2000

by Jim Provenzano

f a billion people, a million may be good athletes. Of those, a few hundred thousand are great swimmers. Of those, a few thousand each year are Olympians. Of those thou-sands, a few dozen are divers. Of those, this autumn, at the Olympics in Sydney, of all athletes, only one, so far, is openly

gay. That one is David Pich-

Ranked fourth in the world, the Ohio State graduate (and Diver of the Year in 1991 and 1992) – noted for his tumultuous coming out in 1997 t stemmed from an unruly incident on a plane between his for-**Sports** mer lover and former coach, Ron O'Brien – Complex Pichler came out to some acclaim in the pages of The

Advocate. The gossip: Pichler accused Tim O'Brien, son of his former coach, of assaulting his companion, Steve Guiffre, on an airplane after the U.S. National Champi-

onships in April of that year.

Tim O'Brien and Guiffre exchanged words as the plane sat on the tarmac at the Greater Cincinnati Northern Kentucky Interna-tional Airport on April 22. O'Brien later retired from coach-

Putting the events behind him, Pichler prefers to focus on the fu-ture, and Sydney, as will many gay

Americans when they watch the Olympics in September.

His form is one of grace and beauty, rivaling that of famed gay diver Greg Louganis.

But this time, the diver's out. Think about it. What a way to start the new century.

I spoke with Pichler on a warm afternoon in July of last year at the International Gay & Lesbian Aquatics Championships in Atlanta, where he had performed a few exhibition dives for the first time at an IGLA tournament.

Although renowned for his skill and GQ looks, Pichler remained unaffected, speaking in the clipped Ohio/Pennsylvania twang I found endearingly famil-

But don't expect any confessional memoirs, let alone a TV movie. Like Butler, Pennsylvania, the simple town he was raised in. Pichler is a direct, no-pretense

guy.

Of his time as a privately known gay diver, he said, "among the other platform divers, we were both out and about in the diving world. I don't know about their families or whatever." families or whatever.

"My coach, Patrick Jeffrey, is the other platform diver in the 1996 Olympic Games. We're both out. There's a couple other divers. I don't know how out in the diving world they are."

Despite the tumult of his coming out, Pichler appeared relaxed

"I came out my junior year of college," he said, "never really even thought that much about it until then. I dated girls, but I wasn't running around. I was doing my

own thing in sports and school."

But with Columbus being

known as a gay-friendly town, did he feel pressure as a top athlete? "There's pressure in athletics," he said. "It kind of distracted me. I felt a lot of pressure from friends; self-pressure more or less.

For most people, it wasn't that big an issue. I come from a small town outside of Pittsburgh, so coming out to my family was my biggest problem. I had gay friends. That's kind of what brought it

Due to his schedule, and the Due to his schedule, and the Dutch indecision about including his sport, Pichler did not attend Gay Games V. "It was also right around my national championships," he said. "I was hoping to go, just to observe. I hope to go to the next one, but not to compete."

pete."

After Olympic Games in 2000 I'm retiring," said the 30-year-old, whose sport cruelly considers competi-tors his age to be elders. In the Olympics there's only three-meter and ten-meter,

and synchronized. "If you make the Olympic team, you dive all events," he said. "I'm hop-

ing to make it on both. Either event is favored. I'm doing well in

In August, Pichler placed first as part of the men's synch plat-form team at the U.S. Summer National Diving Championships in Woodlands, Texas.



Diver out: David Pichler

At the World Cup in January 1999, Pichler placed fourth on springboard and platform, rank-ing him fourth in the world. Can he move up to medal status? He remains hopeful, but mod-ett "Yun ware keper"

He remains hopeful, but modest. "You never know."
Last summer, Pichler had just returned from Hong Kong and was headed for a three-week tour through Europe for a dozen meets. "They add up points for finals, which basically determines world ranking," he said.
When asked who his top competitors are, he cited names, mostly Chinese kids half his age, many gold medalists from previous

ly Chinese kids half his age, many gold medalists from previous Olympics.

"There's a few Chinese (including Xiao Hailiang and Tian Liang), a couple of Russians (including Dmitry Sautin). The current World Cup champion is Mexican." Among the U.S. contenders are Troy Dumais, Chris Mantilla, and Mark Ruiz.

But being internationally known as both a great diver and a



Olympic diver David Pichler

gay man, is there a relief, or a bur-

"I feel a lot more now that a lot Theel a lot more now that a lot of things that seemed to be missing, aren't," he said. "I've had a great relationship with the same guy for five years. That gives me a gay for five years. That gives me a stability and mental strength. It helped my athletics tremendously, kept me out of doing stupid things in that turmoil period in my life."

"In diving, you can't have

"In diving, you can't have something like that distract you," he said. "You can't try an make the Olympic Games when you're try-

Such pressures may be what harms other closeted athletes. "That's kind of what happened in 1992," Pichler recalled. "I came out. I was dealing with relation-ship stuff. I didn't make the Olympic team. In training again for 1996, I was in a better situation. I had a relationship. I had my self-confidence, I was strong and stable and ended up making the Olympic team in a sport where most people my age aren't sticking around."

ng around."

Age is a factor. "I'm 30 now," he said. "My competitors are 19 to 20. A couple guys are 25, 26. A lot of younger divers will be competing until 2004 or beyond."

As he grows into icon status and possibly into retirement, sponsorship for his career begins to take on more serious consider-

Thus the entrance of Speedo, one the most discreetly support-ive sponsors of openly gay ath-letes. With pro athletes claiming the closet as anathema to con-tracts, with the popular swimsuit manufacturer, the opposite seems

true.
"I can't explain that," Pichler
for myself, said. "Fortunately, for myself, Greg Louganis and others, Speedo has been supportive. I can't tell why. They've never said anything to me, never questioned me. They've also been supportive to IGLA."

"In swimming, we don't have a lot of sponsors," he said. "It's not an issue that would have prevented me from coming out. But we're always looking for sponsors. I don't know if that would affect

them or not."
For Pichler, peace of mind is

the greatest victory.

What will be fascinating to watch come September, in addi-tion to Pichler's performance, is the treatment he'll receive by the usually "avoid-it" mentality of the straight sports media. While most athlete profiles focus on their families, will Pichler's partner be given the same respect?

Whether or not he brings up the issue may determine the cov-

rerage. Either way, can gay Americans, and gay youth, look forward to seeing him on a Wheaties box?

Pichler smiles. "That's still something that remains to be seen."



Willie Brown and Tom Ammiano at the mayoral debate in the Bayview. Brown was re-elected December 14. He'll be sworn in on January 8.

### 1999 in review

**◄** page **12** 

Tom Ammiano stunned political observers and came in second with 25 percent, qualifying him for the December 14 runoff against Brown. Riding a wave of discontent with homelessness, Muni, campaign financing, and "cronyism," Ammiano's \$25,000 grassroots campaign had overtaken Brown's top challengers, for-mer Mayor Frank Jordan and mil-lionaire Clint Reilly. The latter had spent about \$4 million of his per-sonal fortune on his mayoral bid. The Ammiano vote was credited with helping his side prevail on

several ballot propositions.
San Francisco District Attorney Terence Hallinan and former prosecutor **Bill Fazio** each received 38 percent of the vote in the general election, and would face a tight race in the December

United Airlines filed an ap-peal to a federal judge's decision that the airline must offer some benefits to domestic partners of

its employees.

At the November 8 meeting of the San Francisco County Republican Central Committee, the group grudgingly endorsed Mayor Brown for re-election.

A petition drive to lift the 1984 ban on gay bathhouses failed to gather enough signatures by the November 8 deadline to put the issue on San Francisco's March 2000 ballot. It was the second at-tempt led by local activists known their frequent assertions that "AIDS is over.

Activists from around the country attended the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's 12th annual Creating Change conference in Oakland in mid-November. Among the dominant themes of the conference workshops were current views on gender, labeling, and self-identification as lesbian gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, heterosexual, and various config-



NGLTF's Kerry Lobel at demo during Creating Change in Oakland.

urations thereof. Hundreds of participants marched to the Oakand Police headquarters November 13 to protest an officer's in-sensitivity in handling an incident involving a transgender woman that occurred during the conference, but did not involve Creating

Change participants.
Governor Davis appointed
Roberta Achtenberg, senior vice president for public policy at the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, on November 16 to the board of trustees of the California State University system. The openly lesbian Achtenberg is a former assistant secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and a former

Orban Development and a former San Francisco supervisor.

Sacramento police announced November 16 that two men – Frederick Clark and Tio Sessoms – had been apprehended in the murder of the Reverend Ed Sherriff, the gay pastor who was found stabbed to death in his home a month earlier. month earlier.

Quentin Crisp, 90, died November 21 in Manchester, England. The much celebrated homosexual, author of *The Naked Civil* Servant and, most recently, Resident Alien, was mourned on both sides of the Atlantic for his dandy-

sides of the Atlantic for his dandy-ism and brittle sense of humor. State Attorney General Bill Lockyer announced November 23 that he was changing the formal name of the Knight initiative (Proposition 22), the March 2000 California ballot measure which California ballot measure which would change state law to prevent recognition of same-sex marriages should they someday be legally performed in another state. Instead of the "Definition of Marriage" initiative, Proposition 22 would be titled the "Limit on Marriage" initiative.

would be titled the "Lime on Marriages" initiative.
Also in November, Secretary of State Bill Jones approved an application to circulate petitions to add a proposed initiative (www.same.sexmarriage.org) to the Novemsexmarriage.org) to the November 7, 2000 ballot that would permit two people of the same sex to lawfully marry, with all the rights and obligations currently available only to opposite-sex couples

#### December

On December 1, the AIDS Re-

search Institute of the University of California, San Francisco held its third annual World AIDS Day symposium, entitled, "How Do We Prevent the Second HIV Epidem-ic?" Meanwhile, UNAIDS an-nounced that by the end of 1999, an estimated 2.6 million people will have died of AIDS worldwide this year alone, bringing the epidemic's cumulative death toll to over 16 million men, women, and children. Other World AIDS Day events took place at the National AIDS Memoplace at the National AIDS Memo-rial Grove and Metreon, which hosted an event by the Asian Pacif-ic Islander Wellness Center. The Alice B. Toklas Lesbian

and Gay Democratic Club and Gays of African Descent for Democratic Action unveiled a 30-second television commercial on December 3 featuring an inter-racial gay male couple discussing the mayoral race and supporting Mayor Willie Brown over Super-

visor Tom Ammiano.

The reversal on the Castro shelter focused new attention on Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church's proposal to establish an emergency queer youth shelter in its Noe Valley church during the winter months. Many neighbors of the small church greeted the plan at a December 5 meeting with the same angry "not-in-my-backyard" opposition previously seen in the Cas-

As anticipated, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued a policy December 6 requiring all states to begin reporting all cases of HIV infection to the agency with either the name of the individual testing positive, or a unique identifier code. The CDC said it would procode. The CDC said it would provide financial assistance to states adopting either reporting system. California Assemblywoman Carole Migden's bill adopting a unique identifier reporting system had been vetoed in the fall by Governor Gray Davis, who had complained about the lack of fedcomplained about the lack of federal funding to pay for it. The Residential Builder's Asso-

ciation took out a full-page attack ad in the December 7 issue of the Independent, a San Francisco weekly newspaper, claiming mayoral candidate **Tom Ammiano** had "declared war" on the city's Catholic community. The ad, which focused on Ammiano's sup-port for the Sisters of Perpetual In-dulgence when they successfully applied for a city permit to close down Castro Street on Easter for a celebration of their 20th anniversary, had also been handed out at Catholic church services in the city

over the previous two Sundays.
Attorney Gary Cloutier was sworn in December 7 as the first openly gay member of the Vallejo City Council.

Mayor Willie Brown was remayor Willie Brown was re-elected in a landslide on Decem-ber 14, winning about 60 percent of the vote over challenger Tom Ammiano. District Attorney

of the vote over challenger Tom Ammiano. District Attorney Terence Hallinan was also reelected to another term by a slim margin over challenger Bill Fazio. In anticipation of a state law taking effect January 1 which permits needle exchanges to prevent the spread of HIV and hepatitis when a local state of emergency is declared, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors declared a state of emergency on December state of emergency on December 14. Similar action was taken by the

The No on Knight campaign said that an early December ruling from the Hawaii Supreme Court, which stated that the same-sex marriage issue was moot in that state because of a voter-approved constitutional amendment limiting marriage to amendment limiting marriage to opposite-sex couples, should serve as a "wake-up call" on California's Knight initiative, which would change state law to prohibit recognition of gay marriages should they one day be legalized in another state.

other state.

The Vermont Supreme Court gave gay and lesbian Americans a surprise holiday gift with a December 20 ruling that same-sex couples in that state are entitled to all the rights, privileges, and re-sponsibilities of married hetero-sexual couples. Although the rul-ing did not legalize gay or lesbian marriages, it set up the framework for the legislature to do so, leading California's No on Knight cam-paign to hail Vermont's decision, while cautioning that it gives the fate of the Knight initiative even more importance.

#### HIVCare Research Center Offering **State-of-the-Art** Treatments For People with HIV For newly diagnosed people For people with advanced KS • 1 vs. 2 protease inhibitors, plus D4T and 3TC Dose escalation study Either Crixivan or Crixivan plus Viracept 24-week study • A new antiangiogenesis drug SU5416 Starves KS lesions • Free labs and study medications May help with swelling Compensation provided For people with 50-300 CD4 cells **HIV and HCV Coinfection** • IL-2 (interleukin 2, T-cell growth factor) 4- to 6-year study Free IL-2 and lab tests • For people who become anemic while on treatment for Hep C Must be on HIV treatment at least 4 weeks No current opportunistic infections Procrit treatment starts if/when Hgb goes below 12 g/dL For people on antivirals with anemia Procrit (a red blood cell growth factor) HIVCare is a program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital • Procrit (red-blood cell growth factor) for people who have Hemoglobin less than 11.0 at 900 Hyde Street in San Francisco. Procrit provided For more information, please call \* Mark Bowers at 415-353-6215.

#### Millennium

◆ page 1

brate.

According to this view, today we stand on the cusp of a new age of innocence, informed by a new der differences, and of same-sex love. It's an age that resists labels, perhaps best evidenced among today's urban youth of all genders and sexual orientations.

But label them we must, and for lack of a better moniker, they

are the "new queers."

Glancing back at the last thousand years or so through the rain-bow-colored looking glasses of 1999 gay San Francisco, the history of people who loved others of the same sex – how we were viewed, how we viewed ourselves, the labels used to identify us – is a history heavily influenced by the major cultural shifts of society at large, and frequently parallels the

struggles of other minority groups.
"The thing that's hard to keep in mind sometimes is that what in mind sometimes is that what we think of as modern lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender identi-ties are just that – modern," cau-tioned Susan Stryker, executive di-rector of the Gay and Lesbian His-torical Society of Northern Cali-fornia. "In the last thousand years, the very categories we use to use

the very categories we use to un-derstand ourselves have changed."

In medieval times, an era of disease and famine, when people were lucky to live into their 40s, were lucky to live into their 40s, social changes took place at a glacial pace. There were indeed famous homosexuals, as well as cases of persecution of homosexuals – although historical records suggest that in the 1200s, the medieval Catholic Church performed same-sex unions.

"People have been practicing homosexual acts for a long time, but that doesn't necessarily mean that homosexuals of a thousand

but that doesn't necessarily mean that homosexuals of a thousand years ago were like us. Identity goes deeper than behavior; there's a broad range of human sexual diversity and it changes over time,"

Stryker told the Bay Area Reporter.

Prior to the major European cultural and conneris shifte te

cultural and economic shifts to-wards urbanization that began a few centuries ago, when the word "queer" came to be used to describe the male receptive partner in anal sex, there were rarely enough "queers" in any one place to be identified as a minority group. These were simpler times; there wasn't much cause to orga-nize politically or socially, as peo-ple found their sexual partners in the countryside, where they lived. the countryside, where they lived. It wasn't the love that dare not speak its name – often, there was no name, and often, homosexual acts were accepted, but not discussed. Perhaps people called each other, "dear," or "sweetheart."

"You could sleep with a man, but you could sleep with a man, but you could sleep with a man,

"You could sleep with a man, but you could insert without being 'queer'," noted Jonathan Katz, chair of the Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Studies Department at City College of San Francisco, and founding chairman of the Harvey Milk Institute.

The growth of cities, coinciding with the advent of "leisure time," and the dissolution of the traditional family as a core eco-

time," and the dissolution of the traditional family as a core economic unit, allowed like-minded people, including "queers" and their sexual partners, to band together, allowing their self-identification as a distinct group, and also permitting their persecution as an identifiable minority.

It was with the advent of the

It was with the advent of the industrial era, and particularly during the male-bonding World War I, that "queer" came to refer to not just the male insertee in and see him to hear. anal sex, but to both partners in same-sex unions. The use of the

term "homosexuality" roughly coincides with the history of the lo-comotive, though the "queer"

comotive, though the "queer" label was used disparagingly right up through the 1950s, when scientists' attempts to objectify and understand "homosexuality" came increasingly into vogue.

"There was this idea that the power of science would bring greater understanding of human diversity, i.e. this is the way nature was, and we should accept people who were that way. This view was

was, and we should accept people who were that way. This view was chic in its time," Stryker said.

Of course, throughout this century, the pace of cultural change throughout the world has increased

at an ever-faster clip, and queer cul-ture changed right along with it. Coinciding closely with the ad-vent of the African American civil rights movement of the 1960s, the rights movement of the 1960s, the gay and lesbian civil rights move-ment was born. Through the 1970s, perhaps galvanized further by the AIDS epidemic in the 1980s, and well into the 1990s, it was about being "out" as gay or lesbian. As in an earlier time, when eco-romic forces created cities permits.

nomic forces created cities, permit-ting the "queers" of old to band to-gether with other like-minded peogether with other like-minded peo-ple, and to be noticed by society at large, the very public nature of the modern gay and lesbian identity — in which we view ourselves and are viewed by others according to the degree of our willingness to pub-licly self-identify as being gay or les-bian — offers individuals the strength of numbers, but it also de-mands that the world take notice. Those who came of age prior

Those who came of age prior to the 1990s know of the isolation and stigmatization a nonconformist sexual identity can bring, without even the consoling reassurances of television sitcoms with "out" characters, openly gay pop

stars and politicians, and even a president who feels our pain. Perhaps it is the economic good times, the fact that our country is not at war, the advances for gay civil rights of the last decade, the medical advances the medical advances against AIDS, the Internet, or all of the above that allows us the luxury to now ask why we need labels at all. "To what extent does someone

"To what extent does someone form an identity around sexual orientation?," asked Stryker. "To say that I am a lesbian – that this certain sexual practice sets someone apart as a different species ... that's sort of a modern idea, that who you are is about what you do sexually,"
"The 'inex queer' arguest that

"The 'new queer' argues that our sexual orientation does not constitute us as a community," said Katz. "We are beginning to see a kind of resistance to define ourselves according to our sexual be-havior, precipitated by an increas-ing dissatisfaction with the limita-tions of a 'gay and lesbian' identity.'

Katz believes that under the

"new queer" model, there is "fundamentally common ground be-tween heterosexuals and homosexuals," particularly in young, urban people "because they're not allowing the definition of sex to govern their behavior."

Is it blind optimism to view the

end of this century as a transitional period from the tired, fearful ways of the ignorant to a new age of innocence, an age more accepting of those who are different?

The second part of Webster's definition of a "millennium," after the Christian part, says, "a period of great happiness or human per-

fection."

"The new queers are telling us that someday we may find a correlation between genes and sexual orientation, but why do we need to know?" said Katz.

"The 'Gay 90s' of the last century meant a kind of innocence, and in a weird way we're experience."

and in a weird way, we're experiencing the same kind of innocence again." ▼

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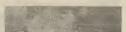


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### **LEGAL NOTICES**

#### Request for Qualifications #176

The Department of Human Services (DHS) announces its intent to seek qualifications from agencies or organizations interested in contracting to provide consultation services as support for the development and implementation of the department's strategic plan and three strategic plan initiatives. This strategic plan is intended to help DHS identify and implement new services and service delivery improvements for its social service programs. The contractor will provide project management, team training and management, and change management consultation services in both strategic planning and Continuous Quality Improvement processes.

An RFQ packet may be picked up at SFDHS, 170 Otis, 8th Floor beginning Wednesday, December 22, 1999. Office hours are from 8AM to 5PM.

The office will be closed 12/24/99 and 12/31/99.

The Respondents' Conference is on Thursday, January 6, 2000 at 2PM at the S.F. Dept. of Human Services, 170 Otis, 8th Floor Conference Room, SF, CA.

RFQ is due Wednesday, January 19, 2000 by 5PM. NO EX-CEPTIONS. For further information or to receive a RFQ packet, call Rosa Inez at (415) 557-5538.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO: FILE NO: 308276 In the Matter of the Application of Jeffrey William Yunt For Change of Name. The application of Jeffrey William Yunt for change of name, having been filed in court, and it appearing from said application that Jeffrey William Yunt has filed an application proposing that his name be changed to Jeffrey William Sylves Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in department X-4/206 on the 10th day of January-2000, and 50 said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. DEC. 9. 16. JAN 6. 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO.236490 The following person(s) are doing busine as, Eliza's Restaurant Inc. 2877 Califor Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94115. This business is conducted by a corporation signed fran Thuy Luong. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 11/23/99, DEC. 16, 23, 30, JAN. 6, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO.236566 STATEMENT FILE NO.236566
The following person(s) are doing business as, R8A Cleaning Service. 1275 25th Averenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by an individual signed Raul B. Adonay. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11229/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 11/29/99. DEC. 16, 23, 30, JAN. 6, 2000

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE CASE NUMBER: 272978

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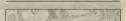
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### LEGAL NOTICES

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of William Raymond Thorne, aka William Thorne. A petition for probate has been filed by John Birmingham in the Superior Court of California, County of San Francisco. The petition requests that John Birmingham be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests the decedent's wills and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The wills and codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative will be required to give notice to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be required unless an interested person of the petition sor file written objections of the court before the hearing, Your appearance my be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you

must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first Issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the courtclerk, Petitioners name and address; John Birmingham. 1519 Oak Street, #1, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. Ca. 94117. DEC. 16,23, 30 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO.236953
The following person(s) are doing business as, Summer Tompkins Walker Design. 2749 Pierce Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by an individual signed Summer Tompkins Walker. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 12716/99. CA on 12/16/99. DEC. 23, 30, JAN. 6, 13, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO.236938 The following person(s) are doing business as, Awesome Productions. 642 Alvarado Street suite #111, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Gordon L. Elkins.The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filled with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 12/15/99. DEC. 23, 30, JAN. 6, 13, 2000

#### STATEMENT FILE NO.236919

STATEMENT FILE NO.236919
The following person(s) are doing business as, Su Yolu. 1439 44th Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by an individual signed Elizabeth He-witt. The registran(s) commenced to transact business name the above listed fictitious business name or names on 12/14/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 12/14/99. CA on 12/14/99. DEC. 23, 30, JAN. 6, 13, 2000



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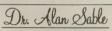
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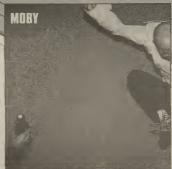
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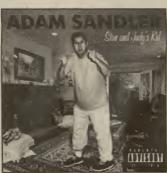
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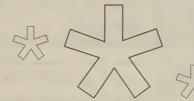


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Look back in leather

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Discipline lessons
Nancy Wright Cooper

Nancy Wright Cooper gets dominant in 'Spank.'

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Vol. 29 • No. 52 • 30 December 1999

Pump boys and fab fossils

The Year of the Personal Trainer

by Robert Julian

998 was the year of the blow job, but early in '99, Bill beat the impeachment rap, and America breathed a collective sigh of relief. It was time to get down to important things, like making money. It was all about money in 1999, and the resulting discretionary spending made this the year of the personal trainer. All those white-collar Silicon Valley types, those corporate attorneys sweating their way through 11-hour days trying to make partner—these men and women went to the rest room, and what did they see? They saw double chins, flaccid muscles, and sagging extremities that don't cut it at Elroy's, XYZ, or Gold's Gym. The solution: hire a personal trainer. Why not! It's what movie stars do.

not? It's what movie stars do.

All year long, for upwards of \$40 per hour, buff young gymbots explained to overworked urban nerds that cheeseburgers are bad, celery is good, and if you lift heavy objects on a regular basis, your muscles will grow. These mysteries of the universe somehow escaped the new rich, and they listened slackjawed to the monosyllabic stutterings of those who worked their gluteus to the maximus. And if you've ever seen the body English when a trainer helps a client stretch, or stands over the bench press, trainer's crotch to client's nose ... well, what's \$60 an hour to someone who nails down \$300K a year, plus stock options?

1999 was a win-win year for trainers and clients — at least those who didn't end up on Iudee Iudy because their trainer/client relation-

1999 was a win-win year for trainers and clients — at least those who didn't end up on Judge Judy because their trainer/client relationship crossed over the bounds of professionalism and into the realm of "Ooooh, baby." Remember the personal trainer from World Gym who, in a "roid rage," murdered his aerobics-instructor girlfriend in San Francisco a few years back, and ended up in San Quentin? On second thought, let's not go there. As this year fades into memory, it's more fun to recall those who offered their personal best in 1999, with mixed results. Here are the 10 most memorable people and/or events in a wild year.

No stranger to personal trainers, gay-friendly Minnesota Governor Jesse Ventura proved he's not only the loosest of cannons, but unapologetic about everything. In 1999, he published his autobiography, I Ain't Got Time to Bleed, making English teachers cringe and the World Wrestling Foundation stand up and cheer. We found out Jesse inhaled, used steroids, and visited Nevada brothels. And the right wing of the Reform Party, which adopted Ventura as its poster boy, went nuts when Jesse gave an interview to Playboy and proclaimed, "Organized religion is a sham and a crutch for weak-minded people who need strength in numbers. It tells people to go out and stick their noses in other people's business." You gotta love this guy.

#### Skeleton key

On another, similarly Cro-Magnon front, the discovery of a skeleton in Wastern Nevada dating back 9,400 years caused a stir in anthropological circles. The resulting analysis showed a new type of American, dubbed Spirit Caveman by scientists. His cranial features look nothing like those of Native Americans, which led anthropologists to suggest that America was a melting pot from the very start, combining Asian, East Asian, and European races. Based on a study of 11 ancient skulls, the American Journal of Physical Anthropology proclaimed that America "was home to at least three distinct groups." It appears that the races who gothere first may have been obliterated by what we now call "Native Americans."

This has caused a great deal of consternation among owners of casinos and bingo parlors. The Northern Paiute tribe is demanding that

page 29 ▶

#### by Roberto Friedman and Millennial Minnelli

999 is so over. What can you say about a year in which the biggest fad, **Pokémon**, sounded like a Tantric sex technique from the Orient, but was in fact simply another mul-timillion-dollar commer-cial aimed at children, aka consumers-in-training?

Now that we've arrived at what people with poor math skills call the new millennium, what really has changed? Out Metro drivers are still

still calling out "Montgummy!" station. Multina still making mucho moolah. M&Ms still making mucho moolah. M&Ms still melt in your mouth, not your mandible. So explain to us what all the M-word fuss is about. Although we have to say we like the new year's initials, same as **Marilyn Monroe**'s: MM. Very

Also now that we're finally at the tail-end of the '90s, a decade notable for barbarism in Europe and rampant greed in the US, we feel as if we're having a flashback to the go-go '80s. The mere possibility of a second **Bush** Administration gives us the heebie-jeebies. since we remember the first one too well, and it was long on mili-tary pyrotechnics and short on social progress. Also in the race for prez: the grotesquerie whom *Spy* magazine used to call "fat-fingered vulgarian **Donald Trump**" back in the avarice-addled '80s - a time which increasingly feels like an era

which increasingly feels like an era of innocence compared to today.

Out There likes the way '00 looks, very secret agent man, but we still don't know what to call it, and we feel silly saying "Oh-Oh." We greet with relief, however, the imminent demise of all that "millennium" blather "millennium" blather

verywhere you look.

Perhaps it's gone
only for a spell, as we suspect that the engines of com-

mercialism are gearing up to crank it all out again in 2001 (the real millennium, dearies).

#### Frankly speaking

There

B.A.R. contributor Michael
McDonagh sent us a copy of the
letter he received from artist Alex
Katz, whose painting of poets
Frank O'Hara and Bill Berkson we used to illustrate McDonagh's view of the O'Hara show at LA's Museum of Contemporary Art some months back. "Thanks for the card, and thanks for the clips from the Frank O'Hara show," Katz writes. "I just wrote a letter to the editor of Artforum in response to the nasty Hilton Als article on Frank." That would be the vituaristic stared. Als perative, homophobic attack Als

launched on O'Hara's memory in an over-the-top hostile review, and we're gratified to see an artist of Katz's stature call him on it.

Juicy dish spreads fast, so by now it's old news that film star Ally Sheedy has quit genderbender NYC musical Hedwig and the Angry Inch — before she was fired. Sheedy had been playing the part of a transsexual German alam rocker in the hit off-Bread. glam rocker in the hit off-Broad-way musical at the Jane Street Theater. But at recent performances, the ex-Brat Packer was dropping songs and ad-libbing lines to the point where audiences could no longer follow the plot, according to our storied sources.



Ally Sheedy

NY theatre writer **Michael Riedel** reports that Sheedy forced another actress, who plays a character who is supposed to be mute, to sing one of her songs. Sheedy, to sing one of her songs. Sheedy, who has a history of drug abuse, also refused to perform unless the actress agreed to kiss her on stage, production sources said.

"She was completely out there," said a company member. "She wasn't sticking to the script, and she was doing all sorts of weird stuff on stage."

Sheedy's spokescreature Reid Rosefelt did not return calls seeking comment. The actress was originally scheduled to be in the musical until Feb. 4, but the pro-

musical until Feb. 4, but the producers told her they wanted her

out by the beginning of January.
"When they said that, she just quit," a production source said.
But James Freydberg, a co-producer of the musical, in-

sisted the parting was mutual.

"This is a high-energy show, and she and we felt it would be best for her to be with her family and relax again," he said. He declined to discuss her on-stage an-

Actor Kevin Cahoon has replaced Sheedy in the role.

#### Pansy subdivision

The Wall St. Journal reported recently that Lake Jackson, Texas, a city which sprang up in the mosquito-infested swamps south of Houston, is all in a dither about street names. That's because the city's thoroughfares were staked out by architect Alden Dow, who decreed that all streets present and future be named after plants.
At this point, "all the good names are taken," developer Elgin Blackwell complains. "Now we're down to the bougainvilleas and

"With street names including poisonous plants (sumac, for ex ample), weeds and wimpy flow ample, weeks and wimpy how-ers, selling houses on some streets can be a delicate proposition," the Journal reports. "Very few men want to live on Pansy Path,' says real-estate agent Jimmie Mason of the street that runs into Water Lily Court." Very few men you know, Jimmie.

#### Name that tune

Lately we've been afflicted with unusual form of Tourette's Disease, in which we are unable to prevent ourselves from spout-ing off lyrics from a few of the year's best pop albums in all sorts of inappropriate circumstances. s to wit:

Beck, from Midnite Vultures. mixing fitness



Beck

leather/Homework with Heather/ Freaks flock together/And make all the lesbians scream!" ("Mixed Bizness") Mr. Hanson also sings,

Bizness") Mr. Hanson also sings, "Thursday night, I think I'm pregnant again/Touch my ass if you qualify." ("Get Real Paid") Hey, buck — we qualify.

Frank Black and the Catholics, from Pistolero: "Now he's headed skyward, standing up on piles of plywood/And all he thinks about is how he looks like Heroes-period Bowie." ("Western Star") Hmmm ... sounds like a certain art director we know so well.



Tori Amos

"I may not have to die, I'll clone myself/Like that blonde chick that sings **Bette Davis** eyes." (**Tori Amos**, "Glory of the 80s" from *To Venus and Back*.)

#### Blind item corner

What "alien" porn star (his "real" — legal — last name is in the title of a seminal '70s sitcom) is in San Francisco for 3 months, provided his problems with im-migration don't land him in the slammer for a portion of his West Coast holiday? Even under "cover," our porn

stud's life is frightfully disturbing, or so it seems the men of San Francisco are finding out. The new Hothouse video release *De-scent*, which has been in produc-tion for two years with consider-able financial investment, has already been shelved because of the lad's little unpleasantness with the law.







# Spank you very much

t's a title that promises a naughty night at the theater, something that the poster picture of a leather-clad woman in a domineering pose reinforces. But there is more to *Spank* than that. "The first 15 minutes gives the audience exactly what the poster."

audience exactly what the poster dictates," said Nancy Wright Cooper, who wrote and performs the solo show, and who is the woman in the poster. "But then

woman in the poster. "But then the show turns upside down, and I take the audience on a ride." Spank, opening Jan. 6 at LaVal's in Berkeley, was inspired by Cooper's uneasy introduction to the world of bondage and discipline in San Francisco and by her unexpected reactions to it. Shortly after Cooper moved to the Bay Area from Santa Fe four years ago, a close friend confided to her that he was heavily into the dom that he was heavily into the dom-ination-submission scene, and he convinced her to check it out.

"I went from no interest, no involvement, to being in the midinvolvement, to being in the middle of this situation, going to pretty hardcore DS parties where people were doing it all in public in a three-story warehouse dungeon," Cooper said. "Il watched, experienced, and certainly judged." In Spank, Cooper arrives on stage as Mistress Nancy, a dominatrix who lectures on the rigid rules she sets for a

rrix who lectures on the rigid rules she sets for a scene. But Mistress Nancy is a fictional creation, which be-come clear as Cooper reveals her **Backstage** 

Cooper reveals her actual responses to the scene. "My initial response was very negative," she said, "but there were parts of it I couldn't stop thinking about. I got interested in the deeper aspects of it, not so much about what goes on at a play party, but what DS meant to me on a very personal basis."

She met a man who knew

She met a man who knew nothing about the scene, and to-gether they explored it together. "He understood that I wasn't interested in play-acting, that I really wanted to be pushed physically to a place where I was made to olose control with someone I could totally trust. In my other roles in life, I am totally a dominant person, so it was a luxurious six months. I felt like I was more my wn self than I've ever felt in my

By day, Cooper works as a stockbroker at a large company while raising an independently minded 17-year-old daughter. But her most significant dominant role is one that she was thrust into at an early age, and which be-comes an important component

of Spank.
"I'm the child of an alcoholic father and I'm the oldest of four kids, so I was put in the position of being the dom when I really wanted to be the sub," she said. wanted to be the sub," she said. "And for all of our talking about DS and my sexual experiences, that's what the piece is really about, about the pain and frustration of not having had a father, and how that has played, not necessarily in an unhealthy way, into the reasons I long for a man to dominate me." dominate me."

That statement could raise red flags among feminists, but Cooper doesn't care. "This is what works for me, and this is what I need," she said. "As to whether it's politically correct, I can't even navigate that, because it's such a



clamped, and the head of his hard cock poking from its bindings.

Not your typical "break a leg" pro gram ad.

gram ad.

But basically, the production is out to tell the story Euripides wrote, and it does so clearly and boldly. Adam Bock projects strength and a cunning sensuality as Dionysus, while Andy Alabran offers the sinister edge of a repressed closet case as Pentheus. Trish Mulholland gets a particularly vivid showcase as Pentheus.

larly vivid showcase as Pentheus' mother, whose revelries lead to tragedy. Lots of effective writhing

Nancy Wright Cooper in Spank

core longing for me."

Nor is the subject of Spank Nor is the subject of Spank something that easily melds with her persona as a stockbroker at a button-down company. "Some of the people in my office are a little disturbed by this piece," she said. "The person I work directly under does not want me to talk about the show at

talk about the show at

talk about the show at work at all."

Cooper, 38, fell into her day job by accident, and says she would walk away from it in a heartbeat if she could. "I'm a stockbroker so I can pay

broker so I can pay

for my daughter to have a nice place to live. But I've been working in theater for 30 years, I've been writing plays for 15, and I've been doing performance art for six, and this is what matters to me."

Cooper moved from Santa Fe Cooper moved from Santa Fe to the Bay Area to increase the size of her potential audiences, but she stumbled with the first show she presented shortly after arriving. Religious Experience, a provocative solo show about Cooper's journeys through different dogmas, had been a success in Santa Fe had been a success in Santa Fe, but failed to draw an audience in San Francisco

San Francisco.

"I felt spanked, and it took me a while to regroup and feel brave enough to come out again," she said. "But I feel like I've got really important stuff that I want to talk about. I'm ambitious, and I think I'm good at what I do."

For more info on Spank, call (510) 843-7810.

#### Mr. S goes Greek

Mr. S goes Greek

Beware of Greeks wearing latex. You quickly get the idea that King Pentheus has got issues when he arrives in a rubber outfit while decrying pleasure-seekers. He is repellent, both literally and figuratively.

But the Shotgun Players' staging of The Bacchae is not really gummiphobic, for the fun-loving god Dionysus sports a pleated centurion-type skirt of heavy rubber — and nothing else. These two rubber guys make eyes at each other while they debate the pleasures of heterosexual carnality.

That director Patrick Dooley has layered a homoerotic subtext

That director Patrick Dooley has layered a homoerotic subtext into Euripides is telegraphed by the Mr. S Leather ad in the program declaring itself a "proud sponsor" of the production and featuring a hunky guy with his head in a hood, his nipples

from the debauched chorus, too. For *Bacchae* tickets, call (510) 655-0813.

#### Rhino on the prowl

Rhino on the prowl

The hunt is on for a new artistic director for Theatre Rhino.
The country's longest-running gay and lesbian theater company is conducting a nationwide search to fill its top staff position, recently vacated by 12-year veteran Adele Prandini. Résumés are being accepted through Feb. 1.
Doug Holsclaw is serving as acting artistic director during the transitional phase, and despite his long involvement with the theater, says he has no plans to apply for

says he has no plans to apply for the permanent position. "It's not something I've ever aspired to be," he said of the job of artistic director. "I'm happy to do

it until they find someone every-one is happy with."

Those who are interested in applying should contact Rhino board president Susan Liebl at 824-5084.

#### Liza with an SF?

Liza Minnelli is headed to San Francisco with her new Broadway show. At least that's what she told syndicated columnist Liz Smith. A representative of the Shorenstein representative of the Shorenstein Hays-Nederlander organization, the likely sponsor here, said nothing has been locked in place, though "the idea is floating around." Minnelli on Minnelli is a self-described "comeback" show for the singer, who pumped a lot of her own money into the tribute to her father, film director Vincente Minnelli.





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# Best of the year on stage

by Richard Dodds

heater, sometimes known as the Fabulous Invalid, has survived another year, decade, century, and millennium. Unfortunately, issues of space, not to mention life span, prohibit a review of anything but what made 1999 memorable on local stages.

Solo a go go: The past year was fairly bursting with one-person performances, with New Conservatory Theatre Center

Conservatory Theatre Center sponsoring visits by such provocative national notables as



Tim Miller in Glory Box

Tim Miller (Glory Box), Holly Hughes (Preaching to the Pervert-ed), and Karen Finley (Shut Up and Love Me!). Erstwhile San Franciscans Marga Gomez (jaywalker at Theatre Rhino) and David Mills (What I Want at In-tersection for the Arts) added to the lively queer quotient. But the happiest surprise was the unher-alded Frank Rich Is Dead at Venue which showcased the impishly

talented Mark Insko in a hilarious and imaginative excursion into a theatrical madman's mind. **Déjà vu adieu:** We said good-

bye to Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint once before, but this time it's for real. A "noodle bar" will be the new tenant after Josie's shuts its door on Dec. 31. But we can still thank Josie's for such 1999 memories as the inutterably quirky Dina Martina, the swashbuckling hilarity of Butt Pirates of the Caribbean, and the panting purple prose of Senator Swish. Where, oh where, will be able to see their likes in the future? bve to Iosie's Cabaret and Juice likes in the future?

In the news: Besides the passing of Josie's, the year also brought an end to Finocchio's long run. But Beach Blanket Babylon shows But Beach Blanker Babyton shows no signs of retiring, and celebrat-ed its 25th anniversary in June. Also in the news, California Shakespeare Festival hired Jonathan Moscone, the openly gay son of the late mayor, to be its new son of the late mayor, to be its new artistic director. At Theatre Rhino, Adele Prandini stepped down as artistic director, and a search for her successor is under way.



Jett Pihakis and Michael McAllister in *Pride* 

Fresh titles: Kaliyuga Arts changed its avant-garde pace to present *Pride*, Myles Weber's honest drama about a gay man's struggles to connect. The musical Cyberotica! had a slap-happy energy in its satire of trannies in cyberspace at the Transmission The-atre. Shotgun Players brightly showcased Adam Bock's Swim-ming in the Shallows, a whimsical tale of a man and his shark. And even though it was written 60 years ago, Tennessee Williams'



mie Gannon and Allison McDonell in Spring Storm

Spring Storm is only now coming to the stage. The Marin Theatre Company gave this surprisingly mature play by the young playwright a first-rate staging.

The gay houses: Theater Rhino and New Conservatory, the city's primary gay theaters, both featured skin in the spring and grit in the fall. Jack Heifner's comedy Key West offered dirty-oldedy Key West offered dirty-oldmen fantasies before New Con-servatory changed gears in the fall with a well-acted version of Steel Kiss, Robin Fulford's tale of gay bashing. There was more good acting on view in Mark Ravenhill's disillusioned-youth play Shopping and Fucking, which was Theatre Rhino's fall answer to its earlier 10 Naked Men.

Best of the reps: Berkeley Repertory Theatre scored a double hit as the year came to a close, with a classy production of Martin Mc-Donagh's Beauty Queen of Leenane in its main theater and Mary Zimmerman's magical adaptation of Ovid's Metamorphoses in the Zellerbach Theatre. American Conservatory Theatre had its liveliest hit in a long time with di-rector Charles Randolph-Wright's swinging '50s version of *Tartuffe*. **Musical medley:** You usually have to drive to the suburbs for

full-scale productions of musicals by local companies. The Willows' by local companies. The Willows Dreamgirls in Concord and The-atreWorks' Sunday in the Park with George in Mountain View made the trips worthwhile. In the city, 42nd Street Moon scored repeatedly with its staged-concert versions of "lost musicals." Lesley Versions of Tost musicals. Lestey Hamilton's world-weary society dame in Let's Face It, Andrea Marcovicci's mind-reading heroine in On a Clear Day, and Meg Mackay's gospel-shouting preacher in The Grass Harp provided some of the highlights.

Clothing optional: Costumers

may have been unhappy by sever-al efforts to keep customers — and the box office — stimulated by eschewing costumes. Ronnie Larsen's 10 Naked Men at Theatre Rhino was probably the best of the lot with its snappy script and staging. Larsen returned with his All-Male Peep Show at the Victoria Male reep show at the victoria Theatre, which wasn't nearly as clever, but did feature some one-on-one opportunities with the porn-star cast. Jeff Stryker Does



Jeff Stryker Does Hard Time

Hard Time, also at the Victoria, was short on wit and long on — well, you know what. Say this about Stryker: He didn't leave anybody wanting more.



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# Ten defenses against McMovies

by Gary Morris

s the millennium creaks to a well-deserved close, there's at least one thing local cineastes can be thankful for: the wealth of adventurous alternative venues and niche film fests on all venues and niche film fests on all sides of the Bay. For every monumental mainstream turkey — think Eyes Wide Shut — there were plenty of more exciting ways to spend those greasy rubles you somehow sucked out of corporate America. There was a wealth of fabulous film fests this year cove. America. There was a wealth of fabulous film fests this year, covering every corner of life from trannies, Asian Americans, and homos to blacks, indies, and Native Americans — you name it, there was a festival for it. But there were also particular brave souls responsible for combating the flood of McMovies with worthy experimental, foreign, homo trashy, etc. movies with a sensibil ity and a personality, regardless of often threadbare budgets or cul-tural disfavor. For these efforts, a tip of the chapeau to ace local programmers Steve Anker and Irina Leimbacher (the SF Cine-matheque), Keith Arnold (the Fine Arts Cinema in Berkeley), Elliott Lavine (the Roxie), Anita Monga (the Castro), and Joel Shepherd (the Yerba Buena Cen-They deserve their own top

Rather than a top ten movie list this year, I'm spotlighting ten movie *events* that occurred at the sacred spaces presided over by the above five angels. In no particular order, they are:



From Christopher Lee's Sex Flesh in Blood

tranny-based cinema from around the world. As San Francisco becomes increasingly homog-enized (instead of homo, as it should), the Trannyfest becomes

ever more important.

Outlaw Masters of Japanese
Cinema (Yerba Buena Center): For some reason, most of the films in this irresistible series were films in this irresistible series were unknown in this country, even among some aficionados. Blame it on the perennially sorry state of film distribution. Sampling the '60s and '70s, this series blew viewers away with such masterpieces as Hoodlum Soldier and that lurid widescreen epic of naked horny nuns and devilish priests, School of the Holy Beasts.

James Broughton Tribute (SF Cinematheque): Broughton

(SF Cinematheque): Broughton was an original — a local poet and filmmaker who gained inter-

pearance as a Pan figure naked and smiling in a tree in *The Bed* 

Hollywood Esoterica (Roxie): The backwaters of the film capital circa 1936-1954 was the subject of this fabulous series the subject of this fabulous series spotlighting obscure divas toiling in B studios. Forgotten gals like Tala Burrell and Gertrude Michael were returned to glory — if only briefly — in quirky films like She's Dangerous and The Notorious Sophie Lang. These films covered a ridiculously wide range, from women-in-prison to female from women-in-prison to female wrestlers to queenpins of crime. And oh yes, Joan Crawford vamped it up in Queen Bee.

The Bad Seed (Castro): It's always hard to pick a fave Marc Huestis event. December's A Judy Garland Christmas with Meet Me



Patty McCormack in The Bad Seed

in St. Louis was inspired in choice and execution, but this one gets the nod for the insanely fascinating film and the wonderful per-sonality of its star, Patty McCormack, 40-odd years later. The drag queens were fun, but McCormack mesmerized the audience with her Rhoda Penmark-like combi-nation of sweetness and sarcasm.

37th Ann Arbor Film Festi-

val (SF Cinematheque): This is by far the best of the traveling shorts far the best of the traveling shorts fests. Maybe there's nothing better to do in Michigan than hone your perception of what's good and bad in this realm. For whatever reason, this year's fest was almost uniformly superb, with a string of fine works capped by the witty-sad diary documentary Where Lies the Homo?

Darkness Visible: The Film

Collaborations of Anthony Mann and John Alton (Yerba Buena Center): Film noir's been so overexposed it's hard to warm to the genre at this point (and let's not even mention that bastard form "neo-noir"), but this juicy six-film series renewed our interest by showing pristine 35mm prints of some fine works that aren't often revived. Border Inci-dent (1948) alone was worth the price of admission for its image of right-wing dodo George Murphy being hacked to death by an un-

forgiving cultivator.

Post-War Alienation: Film Post-War Alienation: Film Noir Educationals (Yerba Buena Center): In this fabulously weird show, Morton Hellig's Assembly Line stood out. God knows who Line stood out. God knows who was supposed to watch this 1961 "educational" film — it's a horrifying anti-Odyssey through nighttime Philadelphia by a pitful factory worker who's gradually unhinged by the pressure to "have fun" in an unbelievably empty, depressing postwar America.

Emile de Antonio: American Radical (the Fine Arts Cinecan Radical (the Fine Arts Cinema): Emile de Antonio was as relentless in exposing government hypocrisy and fascism as the government — well, let's say his archenemy, tranny FBI director J. Edgar Hoover, aka "Wilma" — was in trying to shut him up. These films showed the gadly's sardonic sense of humor too, disproving the old saw that the left can't laugh when Emile plays toy piano with a different, far better queen, John Cage. ▼



Charles "Buddy" Rodgers, Clara Bow, and Richard Arlen in Wings

The Silent Film Festival (Castro): This annual mini-fest, comprising a handful of features and some additional shorts and cartoons, is sponsored by the dedicated folks at the Silent Film Society. This year they resurrected the rarely screened Garbo vehicle the rarely screened Garbo vehicle Love, directed with loving care by one of the great queen auteurs of old Hollywood, Edmund Gould-ing. The homo thrills continued with the 1927 Wings, with its queer subtext that rises valiantly to text in the unforgettable tear-stained kiss between beautiful Buddy Rogers and the dying man he loves, Richard Arlen. (Pay no attention to Clara Bow, waiting patiently in the background.)

The TrannyFest (Roxie and

Victoria): This is another eagerly awaited event, loaded with transgressive charms courtesy of film-maker-impresario Christopher Lee. You'd think the boundaries for this fest would already be too loose to stretch, but Lee managed to do it with his hardcore feature Sex Flesh in Blood and a variety of national prominence through sheer personal charisma. This lat-ter-day Walt Whitman was feted with a tasty sampling of his inno-vative films (dating back to the '40s) that combined avant-garde techniques with unabashedly joy-ful queer content. Broughton's ap-



James Broughton (1913-1999)



# **Classical best**

by Stephanie von Buchau

he ten best opera and classical dance performances I witnessed in 1999, in as-

withlessed in 1999, in ascending order:

10) Paul Taylor's two-week residence at Yerba Buena may have been light on new work, but his revival of Le Sacre du Printemps: The Rehearsal is still the most brilliant kinetic deconstruction I've ever witnessed; pure joy when the red-bundled baby gets offed at the end.

offed at the end.

9) Les Ballets Trockadero
returned, literally, from the dead
(the company was decimated in
the '80s by AIDS) with a higher
level of technical skill than ever
before. Yet they are still drop-dead
bilarious hilarious.

8) San Francisco Opera's **Idomeneo** offered two splendid debuts — the long-overdue bow of lyric soprano Barbara Bonney, and the stunning advent of mezzo Vesselina Kasarova, who looks smashing in drag but has been promised in a few seasons as Werther's passionate Charlotte, with Ramón Vargas as the suicidal



Tenor Ramón Vargas

7) The farewell of San Francis-co Ballet's Evelyn Cisneros got the publicity. Less glitzy but more moving to some balletomanes was the farewell of **Sabina Allemann**, in which the Swiss ballerina danced for the last time in the danced for the last time in the stalwart arms of Ashley Wheater, a guy who could have used a farewell of his own, seeing that he was forced to stop dancing after sacrificing his body in a hideous piece of Eurotrash. ("War is Hell." my ass.) No matter. The audience understood and gave both dancers a warm, heartfelt ovation. 6) SFO's Ring of the Ni-

belung was the summer event, even though the cycles suffered from inane direction and massive flu attacks. The third cycle was vocal Little League, but the first Siegfried was one of the best all-around performances I've ever heard. Conductor Donald Runnineard, Conductor Donald Runni-cles had his band playing like gods, while the men in particular, especially the much-despised tenor Wolfgang Schmidt, rose to

5) Helgi Tomasson's **Giselle** is a blueprint for the future. The company didn't dance it as well as hoped until several performances noped untu several performances into the run, when perennial lonely gal Joanna Berman was finally partnered by a winner, France's Pierre-François Vilanoba, whose ground-skimming brisés in his Act Two variation brought Erik Bruhn to mind. The partnership was both sexy and partnership was both sexy and sensitive, and apparently will con-tinue. Some explanation might be offered for why opening night casts are seldom the best.

4) A just-okay performance of Verdi's *Un Ballo in Maschera* opened the fall opera season. Three weeks later, *Ballo* returned with a new tenor, Ramón Vargas,

who sang with the elegance and sex appeal the role of the philan-dering king requires. Vargas dering king requires. Vargas sparked Carol Vaness into a com-petitive love duet that produced real heat. Add the American debut (and only local performance) of Bruno Caproni, an unknown Italian baritone who looked like Charles Laughton, but sang up a storm, and this was the best single

Ballo I've ever heard.
3) Mark Morris' Sandpaper 3) Mark morris Strapaper Ballet for SFB was pure hedonism, from Isaac Mizrahi's grasshopper costumes (loved those gloves!) to the smartly splintered patterns that Morris set the SFB kids marching through. Then, at The Hard Nut earlier this month — Hard Nut earlier this month — surely the ballet japes to end all ballet japes — I puddled up at both pas de deux, the tender same-sex one for Drosslemeyer (Rob Besserer) and the Nutcracker (William Wagner), and the saucy, teen-porn one for the Nutcracker and Marie (Lauren Grant). It's the music, stupid.

2) La Favorite was my biggest operatic thrill this season. Yes, the

operatic thrill this season. Yes, the production was tepid, the conductor just up to the task, the baritone



Tenor Marcello Giordani



Soprano Sonia Ganassi

had technical oddities that bothered other people more than they bothered me, and Alfredo Kraus had just passed away, reminding us that Marcello Giordani, lovely as he is, is no Alfredo Kraus. Still, bel canto is as much about convictions of the best beautiful to the control of the tion as it is about beautiful singing; nobody will believe those silly stories and streams of inane coloratura if the singers don't be-lieve it themselves. Mezzo Sonia Ganassi is an artist who goes on stage to sell you her point of view. By the end of the evening, if you have any open receptors, you are boo-hooing at her death scene and wondering just how soon you can hear her again.

1) Betsy Erickson's **Beneath** 

the Waves, set to Philip Glass' Violin Concerto for the Oakland Ballet, is technically dated 1998, but I first saw it this year, and this is my party. Glass' music is often is my party. Glass' music is often two-dimensional, with the third dimension created by good chore-ography. Jerome Robbins did it in Glass Pieces; Twyla did it with In the Upper Room; and Erickson does it with the Violin Concerto. The second movement, with its Gladle meldy on the and its fiddle melody on top and its growling brass chords on the botton, evokes the most marvelous-ly musical couplings from Erick-son. This is the best piece by a local choreographer I've seen in decades. tom, evokes the most marvelous-

# **Dancing** through the year

by Aimée Ts'ao

y way of a disclaimer in this annual compilation of what I think deserves recognition (got to cover my ass somehow), I confess that I didn't see every dance concert in San Francisco (who could, given the sheer number of performances?), and of course, I have my personal biases.



Pina Bausch's Tanztheater

In classes by themselves were Pina Bausch's *Nelken* performed by her Tanztheater Wuppertal, and the Nacional Ballet de Cuba in *Giselle*, both at Zellerbach Hall in Berkeley. Bausch created a piece that moved me deeply, emotionally and intellectually. Her mastery of the choreographic and dramatic forms is sans pareil and the artistry of her company members of the highest caliber. Lacking the music of the level we are used to in this country, the Cubans never-theless transcended their imper-fect production of Giselle. Not theless transcended their imper-fect production of Giselle. Not only the principals, but the corps de ballet showed exquisite training and understanding of what dance is supposed to be at the pinnacle of accomplishment.

And as long as we're looking at Giselle, I want to praise Joanna Berman and Pierre-François Vi-lanoba, as Giselle and Albrecht, in San Francisco Ballet's production. They were able to seamlessly combine the technique and acting of the roles to form fully developed characterizations, while establishing a delightful and touching rap-port with each other. Sabina Alle-mann was brilliant both technically and artistically in her chilling portrayal of Myrtha, Queen of the Wilis.

the Wils.

In the choreographic vein, I was very impressed with Nikolai Kabaniaev's *The Puzzle* performed by Diablo Ballet, where he is Assistant Director. His exploration of the gamut of human motivation and interestical was as tion and interaction was enhanced by the music he co-composed with Michael Bemesderfer.

Tomi Paasonen also astounded me with his transformation of the Brady Street Studio into new un-recognizable territory for his White Time. I wish more choreo-graphers had his wild imagina-tion, which he shapes with astute

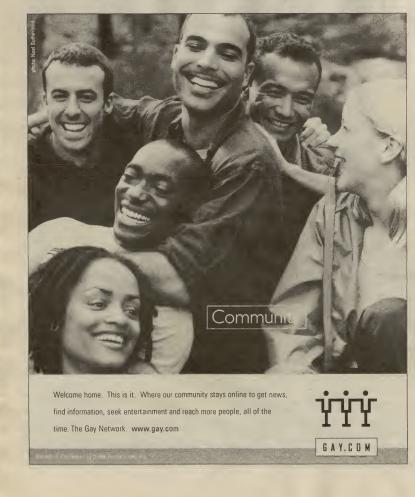
artistic choices.

Dancers I would like to single out are: Anzu Furukawa, whose out are: Anzu Furukawa, whose intense and lyrical performance at the SF Butoh Festival remains etched in my mind; Robert Moses, who is always riveting, no matter what the choreography; and Joe Goode's multi-layered revelations in his own 29 Effemirate Gesture.

nate Gestures.
Les Ballets Africains provided me with visceral and spiritual up-lift through their amazing evening of music and dance. And on the flip side, Bill T. Jones, courtesy of the Queer Arts Festival, and Mark Morris, through Words on Dance, Morris, through Words on Dance, exercised my gray matter and funny bone with their lecture/demo/conversations. It's not often we are treated to such insightful musings on the process of choreography and life in the dance world with such biting wit and off-the-wall hilarity.

I would like to give special mention to Sara Felder, though not a dancer in the usual sense of the

mention to Sara Felder, though not a dancer in the usual sense of the word, for the absolutely best version of the *Don Quixote pas de deux* I've ever seen. While many dancers can reduce this piece into a string of circus tricks, Felder has literally taken the circus tricks (juggiling) and elaysted them to the gling) and elevated them to the most artistic and musical rendition of movement to the Minkus score, as part of her show Shtick! ▼



# Underrated, overlooked

Ten great rock albums of the '90s

by John Blanco

hat follows isn't meant to be a list of the most important or influential rock 'n' roll albums of the '90s. We've already seen enough of those lists, which almost always begin with Nirvana's Nevermind and include Beck's Odelay and PJ Harvey's To Bring You My Love somewhere near the top. Nor is this intended as an all-inclusive list in terms of genres and subgenres of '90s rock. I haven't included a rap or electronica CD on the list in order to prove what a well-rounded listener I am. I don't pretend to be spotlighting obscurities here, either. Half of these CDs are major-label releases, and all have had their share of glowing music press. Ultimately, what follows is simply a catalog of the records that have meant the most to me over the last decade.

Neutral Milk Hotel: In the

Neutral Milk Hotel: In the Aeroplane Over the Sea Neutral Milk Hotel uses surreal verse and novel instrumentation (flugelhorn, euphonium, "singing" saw, short-wave radio) to tell a single epic story on 1997's In the Aeroplane Over the Sea. The story touches on family, sex, war, death, reincarnation — subjects usually only great novelists, not scruffy, young folk-rock bands, can cram into one work without embarrassing themselves. Not only does Neutral Milk Hotel not only does Neutral Milk Hotel not embarrass themselves, but they come up with probably the most powerful and perfectly-conceived album I've ever experienced.



Stephin Merritt

The Magnetic Fields: 69
Love Songs After seeing synth maestro Stephin Merritt and his band the Magnetic Fields in concert about a year and a half ago, I hoped that the act would someday replicate its live sound — a warm mix of piano, cello, banjo, accordion and mandolin — on CD. Only a year later, the Magnetic Fields released just such a CD — three of them, actually — with 69 Love Songs, a work which chucks the intricate, synthesized orchestrations of past albums for wonderful arrangements of the kind of "real" instruments Merritt favors live. Hearing Merritt's froggy baritone backed by bluegrassy fiddle or moaning cello is what makes this CD set special, not the slew-of-love-songs conceit. After all, has Merritt ever written anything but?

The Chills: Submarine Bells

The Chills: Submarine Bells
Pop music, usually lightweight
and of the moment, isn't meant to
age well, and yet the brilliant,
poppy Submarine Bells, released
in 1990, is one of a handful of
records from a decade ago that I
still listen to regularly. What
makes it durable is the Chills'
Martin Phillips' ability to take

some of the conventions of pop music — buoyant melodies, hummable choruses — and wed them to highly literate wordplay. Phillips' lyrics are full of fresh perspectives and vivid imagery, whether his subject is a disintegrated romance, a ghostly visitation or, most appropriately, a "heavenly pop hit." Kristin Hersh: Hips and

Kristin Hersh: Hips and Makers On her first solo record, 1994's Hips and Makers, former Throwing Muses vocalist Kristin Hersh lures listeners in with the lovely, delicate quality of the acoustic music, before slamming them with the brutal emotional content of her lyrics. On "Teeth," for example, the quietest and airiest of acoustic guitars sets a deceptively calm mood, which Hersh then proceeds to shatter with her harrowing portrait of a miserable relationship. That's just one great song on an album I've probably listened to every few months since its release, never



Kristin Hers

growing tired of it and always dis-

My Bloody Valentine: Loveless 1991's Loveless is like a perfect pop record that's been left out in the sun and has become warped in all the right places. The gorgeous melodies and harmonies are still intact, but they've been draped in layer after layer of



Preeminent riot grrrl group Sleater-Kinney hail a cab

feedback and distortion, so that everything sounds gloriously woozy and off-kilter. The complexity of the music — simultaneously harsh and soothing, murky and glistening — seems impossible to match, let alone top. The band obviously thought so; they never released another disc.

Sleater-Kinney: Dig Me Out

To me, preeminent riot grrl group Sleater-Kinney is all about the eloquent tremulousness of Corin Tucker's voice. Tucker's vibrato, which can convey, at turns, vulnerability, anger and pain, lends emotion and meaning to the economical (but not always so simple or direct) lyrics on 1997's Dig Me

page 36 ▶



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# Reader's digest

Ten best books for 1999

by Deborah Peifer

hat a great way to end the '90s (you'll note I'm skipping that whole millennium question), with a year filled with extraordinary books from writers new and, let's say, more experienced (yes, I'm dodging the age thing, too). This was the year for eroticism honed to high art, for sequels that made sense, for life-changing fiction, for nonfiction that affirmed our place in history, for essays that insisted we consider our futures. Looking back on 1999, I can only say, from the very depth of my readerly the very depth of my readerly soul, thank you.

The Price of Passion by Jess
Wells; Firebrand
The Price of Passion was hands
down — well, at least one of them
— the best erotic novel of this or
any year. Jess Wells explored the
satisfaction of a fully lived, fully
passionate life with her best writing
ever. A gorgeous novel, guaranteed
to keep your finger on the button.

The Book of Lies by Felice

Picano; Alyson
Felice Picano took his own history as a founder of the renowned Violet Quill, added more than a dash of fiction, and concocted the history of the Purple Circle. With consummate skill he created absolutely believable characters, each not merely with individual voices, but with unique writing styles as well. Funny, suspenseful, and very smart, *The Book of Lies* was a literate thriller, and more fun than practically anything.

Sleeping Bones by Katherine V

Sleeping Bones by Katnerine V.
Forrest; Berkley Prime Crime
In her latest novel, Sleeping
Bones, Katherine V. Forrest took
her detective and her readers to a
place where rules were not solid,
and where even Kate Delafield had
to consider the possibility that her
belief in the rules was a way of ducking responsibility. Always more than a mere mystery writer, Forrest explored the dangers of the closet with polished prose and insightful commentary. She also created one hell of a conundrum, with enough twists to keep everyone guessing right to the end.

Bruised Fruit by Anna Livia:

I never imagined a writer who could get an honestly earned belly laugh from child abuse, but that was before I read Bruised Fruit.
Anna Livia's riveting tale of the
walking wounded was filled with
laughter and a truly dark, but
oddly optimistic view of the world.

The Crisis of Desire by Robin Hardy with David Groff; Houghton-Mifflin The Crisis of Desire was the book to read about AIDS, even if,

especially if, you thought you were AIDS. Robin Hardy's collection of essays demanded we find new ways of thinking about our future. With rage and humor, with emotion but without sentimentality, Hardy (and Groff) argued for finding joy in our lives again, for remembering that Stonewall marked the beginning of our revolution, not its completion.

To Believe in Women: What Lesbians Have Done for America — A History by Lillian Faderman; Houghton Mifflin

If women are typically written out of history, the contributions of lesbians are doubly invisible. Lillian Faderman's extraordinary history, *To Believe in Women*, of-fered a more complete chronicle, one that included the lesbian part. Her stylish prose was always readable; her research, superb; her conclusions, unarguable. This was the book to send to all of your dyke friends, to celebrate the power of our foremothers.

We Are Michael Field by Emma

We Are Michael Field by Emma
Donoghue; Absolute
Katherine Bradley and Edith
Cooper were two Victorian lesbians, poets, playwrights, lovers,
partners in life and in art who
wrote under the name of Michael
Field Empa Donoghue's biagra. Field. Emma Donoghue's biogra-phy of the pair was a superb re-minder of our presence here, there, and everywhere. Without sentimentality, but with wit and care, Donoghue brought the Michaels and their time to life with an elegant prose that was worthy of her subjects.

L'ost Daughters by J. M. Red-mann; Norton J. M. Redmann's extraordinary

novel Lost Daughters explored questions of family and the closet in a riveting page-turner that left me gasping. She took the dyke dick genre and transformed it into something infinitely deeper and richer than the usual, while offering so suspenseful a novel that the only thing you wanted to do was read faster.

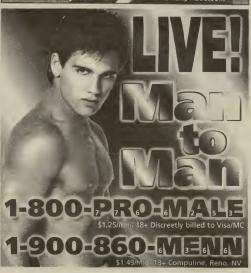
Hers 3: Brilliant New Fiction by Lesbian Writers edited by Terry Wolverton with Robert Drake; Faber & Faber

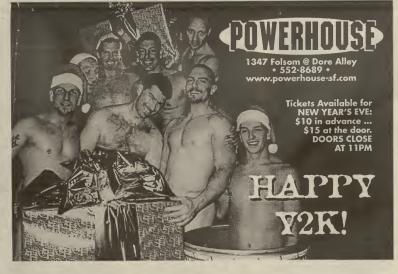
The third time was the charm in this extraordinary collection of fiction. With not a dud in the bunch, Terry Wolverton proved, by her careful editing and her hi-lariously painful introduction, that lesbian fiction was a necessary genre. The stories ranged widely across style and theme, but all were exquisitely linked by their consistently high quality.

Watermark by Karin Kallmaker;

Karin Kallmaker revisited her very fine novel, Touchwood, with a sequel that was a worthy one. Exploring questions of loss and rebirth, she made us care deeply about her characters, even as we had to wonder if we could survive such pain. Painful and life-affirming, Watermark was a novel worth more than just one rereading.









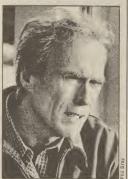
### 1999 in review

■ Arts cover

Spirit Caveman be reburied immediately. The Umatilla tribe was quick to dismiss the fact that Spirit Caveman bears no resemblance to a Native American. Armand Minthorn, a Umatilla religious leader, disclosed, "Our elders have told us that Indian people did not always look the way we do now." Hmmmm. Meanwhile, a study of primitive stone tools from the American Clovis culture shows striking similarity to those used in the early French Solutrean culture. For Native Americans seeking relief from that tired old firewater, the sommelier suggests the Beaujolais Nouveau.

On another Neanderthal front,

On another Neanderthal front, the film's title, *True Crime*, was too close to reality. Producer/director/leading man **Clint Eastwood** chose to play an aging newspaper-



Clint Eastwood in True Crime

man at the Oakland Tribune whose Achilles' heel was a tendency to bed his female co-workers. The sexagenarian Eastwood not only cast himself opposite women at least 30 years his junior, but he paraded around onscreen clad only in a towel. The result was not simply pathetic, but grotesque. Eastwood is so drawn and haggard that his film career is over (unless someone writes a great role for a nursing home patient). His wizened visage is now truly terrifying to behold, and Eastwood's continuing need to cast himself as the object of feminine desire is borderline pathological.

#### Kennedy airport

Really, really pretty, probably a nice guy, but a very dim bulb. That assessment of John F. Kennedy Jr. held right to the grave, as Kennedy drove his new plane straight into the ocean, taking his wife and sister-in-law down with him. What possessed two intelligent women to get into that plane with an untrained pilot, on a night with poor visibility? I mean, if JFK, Jr. asked you to go up in his private plane that night, would you have said, "Yes?" Never mind, I withdraw the question.

you have said, rest: Never mind, I withdraw the question.
When they finally caught up with him, he was hanging out (if you'll excuse the expression) at a nudist colony. He soon confessed to killing and possibly sexually assaulting Yosemite Park tourists Silvina Pelosso, Juli and Carole Sund, and naturalist Joie Armstrong. A motel handyman, 37-year-old Cary Stayner, became the first serial killer to make headlines in 1999. And like Ted Bundy and Jeffrey Dahmer before him, photos of Stayner reveal an uncommonly handsome man—some would say a "hunk." Think about that the next time you strike up a conversation with the dreamboat on the next time you strike up a conversation with the dreamboat on the next barstool or at the gym. One thing is certain: Stayner is going to be very popular up at the Big House.

They came by the hundreds, if not thousands. Many were armed with signs, heads wrapped in hankies, and others were clad in black from head to toe. They rioted, broke windows, vandalized businesses, and brought life to a complete standstill. At the end of November, yet another tumultuous day came to a close in that hotbed of political activism and civil disobedience ... Seattle. Why a World Trade Organization conference would generate this kind of heat was beyond comprehension. That it would happen in Seattle was beyond belief. In the end, the conference was a bust and a major embarrassment to the Clinton Administration. Yeah, baby, Right on. Power to the people! But who were those people?

end, the conference was a bust and a major embarrassment to the Clinton Administration. Yeah, baby. Right on. Power to the people! But who were those people?

Tom Ammiano, the guy who put the fringe in lunatic, whose election as San Francisco Supervisor made the Peter Principle a double entendre, came out of nowhere to offer us the choice between Emperor or Empress. It's quite possible that never in the history of San Francisco has so much come from so little. The collective consciousness preferred a known disaster over an unknown; voters went to the polls holding their noses and reelected the incumbent mayoral slimebag. It was a dark day.

#### 'Folk' art

The San Francisco Lesbian/ Gay Film Festival triumphed with the most outrageously honest, entertaining, and insightful look at the urban gay male experience ever committed to film. **Queer as Folk**, an eight-part series set in



Chris Hunnam in Queer as Folk

Manchester, England and produced for British television, blew everyone away. Despite the fact that screenings were spread out over several days (and in conflict with the gay parade), this contemporary epic was a sellout. Don't expect this one to turn up on PBS. British audiences may be ready to watch a 30-year-old sexaholic introduce his 15-year-old boyfriend to the joys of rimming, but Middle America would riot in the streets if the program aired

here.

In Eyes Wide Shut, the stinkbomb of the year, Nicole Kidman revealed that she will never rise above the status of wannabe movie star. Luckily, Stanley Kubrick died just a few days before the film's release. If he had lived a bit longer, he would have discovered the world found his sexual obsessions puerile and nonsensical — and his filmmaking dull. Kidman, who gave her all (and 14 months of her life) to make the film, revealed herself as a minor talent. More importantly, all those close-ups helped define why Kidman will never be a star. She has tiny, sharp, rodent-like teeth and pinched features that recall the spoiled, prissy girls that boys simply must tor-



Nicole Kidman in Eyes Wide Shut

ment in the schoolyard. This is not a winning combination. Best career advice for Kidman: divorce Tom Cruise and sell your story to the *National Enquirer*.

Tom Cruise and sell your story to the National Enquirer.

On the last day of May, the most talented female impersonator of the century passed into history. Charles Pierce died in his sleep at the age of 72. There are drag queens, and there are drag queens, but Pierce always considered himself a "male actress." No one did better send-ups of Hollywood icons, from Carol Channing to Gloria Swanson to Tallulah Bankhead. And anyone who saw his devastating satire of Bette Davis and Joan Crawford in Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?



Charles Pierce as Mae West

could never forget it. Pierce played both parts simultaneously, rotating his wig 180 degrees as he switched back and forth from one actress to the other. An incredibly talented artist, exceedingly fast with one-liners, Pierce was in a class of his own. "Dead, you know." That famous Pierce retort came home to roost in 1999. ▼

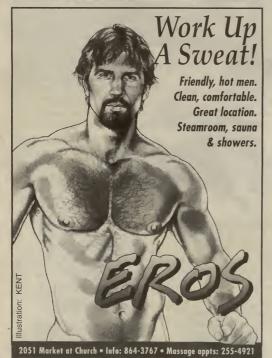




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# 'Thanks for the memories' part 2

# We did it in leather

#### by Mister Marcus

he marathon of parties, celebrations, dinners and other shenanigans for this holiday season is almost over. It's only a matter of hours before we begin life in the year 2000. The year of the Dragon is almost upon us, and whatever you experienced in the 1900s is all a memory.

Hopefully, Santa brought you all the things you wanted. As for my

all the things you wanted. As for my household, a little creature named Toshiba moved in and is likely to

stick by me wherever I travel.

Looking back at the last six months of 1999, I can't help but marvel at all the money that has been raised in the name of charity. Members of the leather commu nity, with and without titles, have contributed immensely to the wel-fare of others. Thank you all for your support and volunteerism. Here are just a few memories of the last six months of 1999:

Everyone recovered from the Pride Parade, and the Phoenix Uniform Club's Leather/Uni-

form Ball was a knockout. In Las Vegas, our Ms. SF Leather, Pam Meyer, prevailed and captured the International Ms. Leather title. The first ever International Ms. Boot Black title went to Leslie Anderson of Albuquerque, but not without much bitch-

without much bitch-ing from Southern California women who proved to be poor losers, after all.

The Castro Lions staged their

annual leather auction and raised

In Baltimore, Carl Baldwin In Baltimore, Carl Baldwin and Ryan Goldner stepped aside as the Mid-Atlantic Drummer winners, and Fraser Picard and Woodie Barnes replaced them. They would later prevail in San Francisco in the Int'l. Mr. Drum-mer competition mer competition

André English won the SF Leather Daddy XVII title, and the Dore Alley Fair proved to be bigger (and better) than ever.



International Ms. Leather Pam Meyer, left, poses with Mr. San Francisco Leather Werner Tillinger on the night she won the Ms. SF Leather title. Pam went to Las Vegas in July and came back with the IMs.L 99 title.

In Boston, Bobby Veccarillo was named Mr. New England Drummer. Bauke Ylstrsa was named Mr. No. California Drummer and Marty Epstein won the boy title. Jean Aschbrenner and Mark Ingham won the Ms./Mr. Alameda Co. Leather titles

#### August

Bazaar

Great news for our community this month: the new home for the Leather Archives &

Museum was selected and a down-payment was made. Even as you read this, all the museum's material is being moved into the new building. The

formal opening will take place in February 2000. Also in Chicago,

the North Halsted Street fair was a smash success despite the heat, and Shawn Couch was named Mr. Southeast Drummer with boy

Los Angeles staged their big

street fair, and the Leather Extravaganza was the place to be.
San Francisco Grants for the Arts gave SMMILE a \$9,000 gift, and that hunky John Pijnenburg was named Mr. Leather Holland. Victor Varela was named Mr. Florida Drummer.

Ginger the Spice Empress passed over and a very nice memorial service took place. In Providence, Rhode Island,

Christolph Malvaney became Mr. Ocean State Leather, and Mary Poppins Ms. OSL

#### September

Todd Kepus sashed Lance Brittain as the 17th Leather Daddy's Boy the first weekend of this

A horde of people from here attended the Satyr's MC weekend attended the Satyr's MC weekend run, and it was great fun attending Southern Decadence in New Orleans — talk about Southern hospitality! Chuck Lance won the Mr. Louisiana Leather title and George Hester and Danny are great hosts!

Leather, Prida, Wash, in Sch

Leather Pride Week in San Francisco was great. Grant Dupont staged Leather Walk 99, but he will be moving away, so Art Tomaszewski resumes production of the event for next year.

Almost 400,000 people attended the Folsom Street Fair. Fraser Picard and Woodie Barnes, repre-senting the Mid-Atlantic Drum-mer region, won the Int'l. Drum-mer and Drummer Boy titles. Shockingly, it was announced that the Drummer contest had been leased to Mike Zuhl of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and as some of you Pennsylvania, and as some or you know, the contest will be in Florida next year. *Drummer* magazine suspended publication with no explanation.

Int'l. Ms. Leather Pam Meyer

next page

#### EVENTURES IN LEATHER

#### Friday, December 31

Club Townsend will accommodate you all weekend for \$50 with three nights of madness as only Token

tor \$50 with three nights of madness as only Token Diva can do it!
Int'l. Mr. Leather Bruce Chopnik hosts the Millennium Military Ball at River Business (soon to be Guerneville Eagle) at Bob Brunson's last hurrah. Emcee'd by Donna in Red; Entertainment by TJ and Sheba!

At Daddy's \$25 guarantees your entry for all

At Daddy's, \$25 guarantees your entry for all the fun you can handle if you get there by 2300. At the Powerhouse, \$10/advance, \$15/doors which open at 2100 and no one admitted after 2300. Champagne, golden shower roast, party favors,

#### Saturday, January 1

The 15 Association play party. Doors open 2100-2300; party until 0200. \$10, BYOB. Guests must arrive with you.

#### Sunday, January 2

Dinner date auction for six Bare Chest Calendar 2000 men at the Eagle, \$8, food, 1500-1800. Bring cash, checks, plastic. Lenny Broberg emcees.

#### Wednesday, January 5

Leathermen's Discussion Group, 1930, at Club Eros with Richard Hunter of Mr. S/Fetters ex-pounding on his wealth by owning a leather store, confessions by customers and being an innovator in

the leather/kink/BDSM clan. Free!

#### Thursday, January 6

Mr. January 2001 will be chosen as the next year's calendar goes into production. Win \$100 at the Powerhouse, 2100. Meet judges, celebs, and dish!

#### Saturday, January 8

Mr. Dallas Leather contest in that fabulous city tonight. No details at my deadline

#### Wednesday, January 12

The Ring presents: "Escaping from Rope Bondage," 1900-2100; call 437-0883 for loca-tion, or email: the\_ring@ix.netcom.com

#### Weekend January 14-17

Centaur MC presents the Mid-Atlantic Leather weekend with all sorts of fun things. Dean Ross will sash his successor on Sun., Jan. 16.

#### Thursday, January 20

Mr. February 2001 will be chosen in the bare chest calendar contest at the Powerhouse tonight at 2100. Win \$100, fame, a husband(?), and adora-

Thursday, January 27
Mr. March 2001 calendar man gets selected tonight at the Powerhouse at 2100. Win money, adoration, fame, phone numbers.

# 21st-century Lips

by Sweet Lips

Tú no estas solo! The Club Rendez-Vous is having a New Year's Eve Party to end the year. Tickets are \$50, which in-cludes party favors, a 2000

calendar, a souvenir champagne glass, seafood buffet, a 2000 pin, cham-pagne at Midnight 0 and two cocktails. fun starts at 7 p.m., check with the bar for more **Cocktail Hour** 

New Year's Eve at Kimo's sees DJ Domino ring in the millenni-um, spinning his DJ magic in an all-night party. \$5 cover includes party favors, blah, blah, blah, and watch the ball drop on their 58 inch screen.
Thanks to Mayes Oyster

Song Lee and manager Joe Kahler, Mark Campanella from Budweis-Mark Campanella from Budweiser, and Peter O'Brian from Red Hook for helping to raise \$6,000 for the Positive Resource Center and Project Open Hand. And hey Stern, you did a good job putting it together.

Onward to the new century! On Saturday, January 1, 2000, the Club Rendez-Vous will be having a

will be having a birthday party for David

Hamilton (aka Mame of Portland) from 10 a.m. Dennis "Lox 'n Jocks" Tyler. What a way to start the year off, and yes, I'll be on the plank along with Ronnie Lynn, so come on down,

Here's wishing you all a very



Lips at her 77th birthday party

happy and prosperous new year, especially Luís of the Adobe Cafe in Puerto Vallarta! Dick Deemer is going back there for three weeks





# **FISTING** THE SLING

**Every Saturday Night** 415.292.3275 www.theslingsf.com

### **Mister Marcus**

previous page

hosted two boat cruises with Int'l. Mr. Drummer Hervé Bernard and Int'l. Mr. Leather Bruce Chopnik where almost everyone got "piece" — of the action.

#### October

The Golden Gate Guards staged the final weekend bike run of the year and it was deemed "classy." Mike Keller was named Mr. Russian River Leather, and Tony Mills and Donna Sachet worked it for all it was worth as the emces

the emcees.

The Philadelphians MC celebrated their 25th anniversary with most of the action at the world famous Bike Stop. The Alameda County Leather Corps celebrated

In Oklahoma, Terrell Brown was named Mr. Oklahoma Leather 2000 — the first African American man and the first heterosexual to win. MaDaddy Wee-

bie is Ms. Southeast Leather.

The Boston Ramrod celebrat

The Boston Ramrod celebrated its 18th anniversary, and VASM in Vancouver, BC turned 17.

The Forum's Progressive Dinner was a sell out, and Jimmy Lee Murray (formerly of Our Town) was named the first ever Mr.

North Atlantic Leather with Randie Smith, the NA Leather Powin an inaugural title event by Boy in an inaugural title event by the Utica Tri's. The AUA staged their annual weekend in Los Angeles and I haven't heard a word about how it went.

Halloween was, well, Hal-

#### November

André English and Lance Britlaunched a month-long



Fraser Picard of Norfolk, Virginia, left, and Woodie Barnes of Baltimore were chosen Int'l. Mr. Drummer and Drummer Boy 99 in San Francisco in September They were entered from the Mid-Atlantic Drummer region.

fundraiser for Project Open Hand with five beer/soda busts that raised \$3,000 for the cause.

Mike Zuhl, the new lessee of

the Int'l. Mr. Drummer contests, announced that Drummer 2000 would be held at Tom Kiple's Sun-coast Resort in St. Petersburg,

The men in blue busted a private SM party in San Diego and the crackdown on gay bars, especially leather ones, goes on in the Southland.

Southland.

Daddy's Bar celebrated its fouth anniversary, and Peter Fiske was named Daddy of the Year and TJ Istvan the Employee of the Year. Chris Chaput was named Mr. Palm Springs Leather 2000, and in Toronto, the stunningly handsome estevan de Castro was chosen as Mr. Toronto, Leatherman 2000.

: Toronto Leatherman 2000. Wolf's Den in Palm Springs unveiled their newly remodeled bar, exquisite job by Alex Marcus,

bar, exquisite job by Alex Marcus, and several people announced that they were moving there! Cheap rent?

SMMILE distributed a whopping \$215,000 — the proceeds from the Dore Alley and Folsom Street Fairs!

from the Dore Alley and Folsom Street Fairs!

Dorothy "Doe" Blake was named Ms. San Diego Leather 1999, and the Golden Gate Guards celebrated their 13th anniversary. Tom Kelley was named Mr. International Rubber in Chicago, and Alisa Swindell was named Ms. Louisiana Leather. The DC Bayle celebrated 28 wears! The DC Eagle celebrated 28 years! Still waiting for a photo of Mr. DC Eagle 1999.

#### December

Donna Sachet's two "Songs of the Season" were sparkling events. The Don Tse-Omar Moseley party raised almost \$3,000, and the Leather Holiday Brunch was fun with Ernestine and Bob Brunson receiving achievement awards. Tom Basch won the Mr. SFGDI Leather title, and The SF Forum Christmas party at the Powerhouse was a smashing success; Pantheon of Leather Awards nominees were announced and Todd Crutchfield won the Mr. South Leather Texas title in San Antonio. Werner and TJ's Reindeer Games benefit raised some \$2,020, and Eric Keith & BJ Cavnor netted \$1,000 for the No on Knight Initiative. Bravo!
And finally, an AIDS memori-

al quilt was completed for Int'l. Mr. Leather 95 Patrick Toner— no thanks to that certain woman who has lied about it all the way! Play safe and have a wonderful

New Year's celebration. See you all in the next century. Keep living, keep laughing and keep loving — just do it in leather!



**Jack Off Club** 

Circle J

Mandatory clothes check Tuesdays and Fridays 8:00 p.m.







Gathered in all their glory in Las Vegas are II the IMs.L contestants, plus the IMs.Bootblack contestants (kneeling). Ms. San Francisco Leather Pam Meyer won the title, and Leslie Anderson is the first-ever Int'l. Ms. Bootblack.

# Calendare by Mark Mardon

veryone needs to chill. Nobody's going to want to party for a long while after January 1, 2000. The millennial boom will be followed by a millennial urge to crawl back into our caves and hunker down. Some will escape to darkened movie theaters to cape to darkened movie theaters to immerse themselves in the details, subtleties, nuances, and finer points of a filmmaker's art — precisely the kind of attention to small wonders that's sorely missing in all the turn-of-the-century hoopla.

Where prior to New Year's people were standing for spectagle in the past-

were starving for spectacle, in the post-apocalyptic era, a paroxysm of guilt will sweep through the populace, re-minding the hung-over masses that visits to the cinema help restore sanity.

The opportunity for just such rejuvenation through film/video-watching is at hand at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. There, six days a week, the center's ongoing arts festival "Bay Area Now 2" is presenting a showcase of the Bay Area's best documentaries produced in recent years.

Here, for your healthy viewing easure, is a list of the show's daily offerings through February 13, 2000

#### Tuesdays

My Femme Divine by Karen Everett, a look into the romantic world of butch and femme lesbians. Black-and-white photography, documentary sequences, home movies, cinema verite, and first-person poetry coalesce into an unforgettable experience (52 min., video).

#### Wednesdays

Citizen Hong Kong by Ruby Yang, following five young Hong Kong resi-dents as they relate their triumphs and tribulations during Hong Kong's first post-colonial years (90 min., video)

The Double Life of Ernesto Gomez Gomez by Catherine Ryan and Gary Weimberg, a moving self-portrait of the double identity of a Mexican-American-Puerto Rican teenager who learns that his biological parents are revolutionary heroes (56 min., video).

#### Fridays

Sacrifice by Ellen Bruno, spotlights the issue of child slavery and prostitu-tion, focusing on young Burmese girls sold by their families to brothels in Thailand (50 min., video).

#### Saturdays

Red Rain by Laura Plotkin, an engaging profile of Gina "Boom Boom" Guidi, a working-class woman who has driven herself to become the fe-male welterweight champion of the

Corpus: A Home Movie for Selena by Lourdes Portillo, about Tejano singer Selena and the cultural sensa-tion that surrounded her life and tion that surrounded her life and death (49 min). Preceeded by Ladies and Gentlemen, The Fabulous Stains: Behind the Movie, by Sarah Jacobson and Sam Green (12 min.).

Screenings are at noon, 2:05pm. and 4:15pm in the Screening Room at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St. (at Third). Free with gallery admission. Info: 978-ARTS.

Asian Art Museum

Fifteenth Annual Japanese New Year's Bell Ringing Cer-emony. A 2,100-lb. 16th cenemony. A 2,100-lb. 16th century bronze bell, originally from a temple in the Tajima Province of Japan, will be struck 108 times, symbolically welcoming the new year and curbing the 108 bonno mortal desires which, according to Buddhist bellef, torment humankind. Each toll is struck after the reverberations from the preceding toll have dissipated. The last toll traditionally coincides with nave dissipated. The last of traditionally coincides with the first few seconds of the new year. First toll strikes at 11am. Free with museum entry (\$7 adults; \$5 seniors; \$4 youth; under 12 free).

boundless hope. \$13-\$22. 8pm. Thru 1/1/00.

### Metronome Ballroom

Metronome Ballroom "Quiver: A Fairy Butch New Year's Eve" for gals of all colors and their pals. A stripper-studded, live-music filled, not-to-be missed, ultra fancy cabaret and massive dance party in a opregously elegant, secure, palatial space. Complimentary champane toast, party favors and sexy concessions. Dancing with DJ maze and live musicians. Partial proceeds benefit the Lyon-Martin Women's Clinic. \$35-\$51 sliding, Doors open 9pm. Show at 10:30pm. 1830 17th St. (at DeHaro). Tix/info: 626-8805. 626-8805

#### International Ballroom & Deco Pool

"Supernova 2000," a mega-party thrown by Anon Salon,

DJs Eduardo and Flores. Doors open 9pm (early arrival recommended). 21+w/ID. Info: 665-6715.

#### 1015 Folsom

1015 Folsom
"Spundae Birth of New Millenium," featuring DJs Doc
Martin (LA), Terry Mullan
(Chicago), Jerry Bonham
(Spundae, SF), Taj (Spundae,
SF), Galen (Sunset Parties),
Solar (Sunset Parties), Sen
Sei (Kinetic), Dave Colemen
(Kinetic), Michael Anthony
(Kilkita), Sirgan (Come. (Nikita), Simon (Come-Unity), and others. 7am-8pm. 21+. Info: 267-0568 or 974-

# 177 Townsend @ 3rd Universe and Pleasuredome present "New Year's Eve 2000" with music by DJs David Harness, Blackstone, and Neil Lewis. \$50 weekend pass includes admission to

325 people); champagne lounge; balloon drop; give-aways. Welcomes all gender & sexualities. \$30 general adm.; \$80 couple's package adm.; \$80 coupler \$ package (includes admission for two, VIP line privileges, bottle of champagne, party favors, commemorative button, and gift package). 9pm-2am. 21+w/ID. 911 Folsom St. Info: 675-LOVE.

#### Bill Graham Civic Auditorium

Martel & Nabiel and Bill Graham Presents stage "SFNYE Superior Bash" fea-turing live performances by headliners The Pretenders, headliners The Pretenders,
The Crystal Method, and Los
Van Van, plus other live acts
representing music of all the
decades since the swingin'
'40s & '50s. With multiple
party spaces including a bubbly lounge, disco palace, VIP
room, make-out den (note this
will be a predominantly
straight crowd), Shagalicious
Shack and more. With DJs
Ellen Ferrato, Julius Papp,
Tom Thump, and others. Balloon drops, fireworks, exotic
dancers, trippy visuals and
more. \$99.99. 8pm-3am. 99
Grove St. (at Polk). Tix from Grove St. (at Polk). Tix from BASS outlets (478-BASS).

cle. Music by DJs Darin Ar cre. Music by DJS Darin Ar-rowood (Atlanta) and Mike Duretto (Los Angeles). \$75 advance; \$90 door. 5am-5pm (following "Metropolis Mondo Millennium" at Metreon). Near Bayshore and Oakdale, Info: 552-5900.

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session 8-9pm

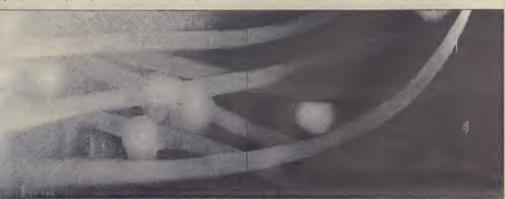
Center Berkel 2568.

#### Metropolitan Community Church

Men of All Colors Together (MACT) host their 13th annu-al John E. Teamer Blackal John E. Teamer Black-Eyed Pea Dinner and Awards Ceremony, based on the southern-American tradition of eating certain foods (e.g. black-eyed peas and greens) in order to attract good luck and prosperity. Dinner in-cludes cornbread, yams, fried chicken and peach cobbler. It was named after John Team-er, an early leader of MACT; he died of AIDS in 1993. With 50/50 raffle and no-host bar. \$10 members; \$15 non-members. 3-6pm. 150 Eureka St. Info: 675-0201.

#### 550 Barneveld

Gus and Betty Ford present "Y do K," the first-ever Me "Y do K," the first-ever Me-tropolis customer apprecia-tion/recovery/birthday/pajama party, featuring pizza, mas-sage, couches, Alka-Seltzer, movies, Red Bull I.V., pop-



Lumina XIX, oil on canvas on wood, 30 x 96 inches, by Robilee Frederick. At Braunstein/Quay Gallery. See Tuesday.

Golden Gate Park Music Concourse. Info: 379-8879.

### Calvary

Presbyterian Church Presbyterian Church
Urs Leonhard Steiner conducts the Community Music
Center Orchestra and 90member Chorus an uplifting
performance of Beethoven's
Ninth Symphony, Opening the
concert is a première of Mexican composer Carlos Pazos's
Symphonia Meztica, and pianist Allison Lovejoy joins the
orchestra for Rachmaninov's
dazzlina Rhazosdy on a orcnestra for Kacnmaninov's dazzling Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganin. Featuring soprano Kamala Stroup, mezzo-soprano Theresa Car-dinale, tenor Sergei Se-leznioff (Piet Van Allen on leznioti (Piet van Alien on Jan. 1), and bass John Mina-gro. \$20 (\$10 youth, stu-dents, seniors). 9:30pm. Also on Sat., Jan. 1 at 8pm. Lo-cated on Fillmore St. at Jack-son. Tix at City Box Office, 392-4400.

# New Conservatory Theatre Center

"Who's Afraid of Edward Albee," by Michael Kearns, directed by Arturo Catricala It looks behind the scenes at an LA acting troupe premier-ing the first all-male version of Albee's classic play, "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" \$13-\$22. 8pm. Thru Jan. 22. 25 Van Ness Ave. Tix: 861-8972.

#### New Conservatory Theatre Center

Theatre Center
"Dream Boy," adapted by
Eric Rosen from the 1995
southern gothic and homoerotic novel by Jim Grimsley;
directed by Dan Oliverio. It
recounts the story of a painful
first love between two adolescent boys in the backwoods of
North Carolina. A tale of

Party/Science, and Mystic Midway in two conected buildings with five dance floors, 13 DJs, and ten different environments. A trippy, artsy scene, reminiscent of Burning Man. Highlights include complimentary champagne from 8-9m (21 + over): a lingerie and balloon over); a lingerie and balloon drop; a million-bubbles cas-cade; Fat Chance Belly Dance; the tribal-funk group Children Of Paradise; syncontrol of Paradise; synchronized swimming and fire-torch juggling by Capacitor; a chai tent/smoothie bar with rugs and pillows; poster im-ages by Stevee Postman (cre-ator of the queer Cosmic Tribe Tarot); a "Phassion Sho" by Labriith: and a Sho" by Labyrinti, and a Ladies Leopard Lounge host-ed by some of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. \$50. 8pm-late. 50 and 70 0ak St (at Van Ness). Info: 978-2345

#### Sony Metreon

Gus presents "Metropolis: Mondo Millennium," featur-ing the music of DJs Joe D'E-spinoza (Boston) and Phil B. (SF). Laser show, mega-sound system, futuristic cyberatmosphere, and thousands of hunky men. \$150 (\$250 VIP passes available). Doors open 9pm (please arrive prior to 11pm). Entrance on 4th St. near Howard. Tix: (510) 601-TWER TWEB.

# 174 King St. @ 3rd

"Futura 2000," San Francisco's official millennium celebration for the gay Latino
community (so declared by
proclamation of Mayor Willie
Brown), With 2,000 Latinos,
2,000 gift packs, 2,000 free
champagne toasts, 2,000
party favors, and one huge
midnight surprise. Featuring

NYE 2000, Universe on 1/1/00, and Pleasuredome or 1/2/00. 21+w/ID. Tix at BASS or call 1-888-TIX-ONLY, Info: 289-8850.

#### The Bar on Castro

Celebrate 2000 in style with food spread, champagne, music and party favors. VIP entry (no waiting in line); free coatcheck. \$35 (tix available from all bartenders). Starts at 8nm. You know where

#### Powerhouse

Arrive early if you want to join other hunky leather guys for New Year's. The doors close at 11pm! Tix are \$10 advance; \$15 door. 1347 Folsom St. (at Dore Alley). Info: 552-8689

DJ Lambchop spins into the new millennium, accompanied by sexy go-go boys. \$8 cover. Doors open 9pm. Complimentary champagne at midnig 1548 Polk St. 441-8413.

#### The EndUp

Fag Fridays invites all to celebrate "Fag 2000," an intiebrate "Fag 2000," an inti-mate evening with music by DJs Blackstone, Ruben Man-cias, and Rolo. Midnight countdown and balloon drop with champagne for all, host-ed by beloved drag diva Juanita MORE! Drawings for prizes, and special surprises all evening, 330. Doors open 9pm; open bar 9:30-10:30pm. 21+w/ID. 401 6th St. (at Harrison). Info: 263-St. (at Harrison), Info: 263-

#### CW Saloon

Skip & Shindog present "New Wave CitY2K." An '80s dance party. Two dance floors; plenty of room to dance (tix sales limited to

Bench & Bar, Oakland

with laughter. Comedian Scott Capurro entertains the crowd. Complimentary champagne toast at midnight. Party favors, dessert table and more. DJ Steve Fabus (White Party/Probe LA/Metropolis) keeps the party moving. 7,000 square feet of entertainment space on four levels with state-of-the-art sound and lighting. \$25 advance, \$30 door. 16135 Main St., Guerneville. Info: (707) 869-5708. Tix at Russian River Concierge Services, (707) 869-5706.

Sat

Latin Explosion celebrates Latin New Year's 2000. Fea-turing music by DJs Keith and Jorge, free appetizers, party favors, and Wet Lube give-aways. 9pm-2am. 21+w/ID. Info: (510) 444-2266. Club Fab, Guerneville Head up to the Russian River to ring in the new century with laughter. Comedian

#### 'N Touch

Shanti presents "Afterall 2000," an after-hours New Year's Benefit Party for Shanti. With dancing and entertainment from 2am to 6am. \$10 entry fee. 1081 Post St. (at Polk). Info: 674-4764 4764 174 King St. @ 3rd

# "Short Circuit 2000," a mil-lennium morning party featur-ing the music of DJ Michael Mangiaforte. \$25. 4am-noon.

550 Barneveld Jito presents "Aftershock Millennium," a 12-hour jour-ney of music, men and muscorn, facials, and fuzzy slip-pers. With DJs Trane, Gray, and Matt Consola. Wear PJs, track pants, sweats, bathrobes, or trainers. Free.10pm-6am. Info: 646-0890.

# Sun

#### Montclair Women's Cultural Arts Club, Oakland

Oakland
Bring in the New Year with a
Community Sing featuring
Linda Tillery & The Cultural
Heritage Choir. Harmony and
community spirit prevail as
all are invited for a family
sing-a-long, "Singing Our
Dreams." A Barbara Price
Production. \$5 adults; \$2
teens; free for seniors and
kids under 12. 2-4pm. 1650
Mountain Blud, Oakland. Mountain Blvd., Oakland. Info: (510) 339-1832.

#### 1015 Folsom

Gus presents "Mass: The Resolution Party," featuring DJ Phil B of Aftershock. \$20. 6pm-midnight.

6pm-midnight.

ATA Gallery
Other Cinema hosts "Post-Millennial Syndrome," a relaxed refuge of bad science-fliction and worse science fact, including apocalyptically comic collage animations by Martha Colburn and a screening of Craig Baldwin's "Spectres of the Spectrum," a witty, revisionist history of the electronic age as told through a skillful collage of found footage. Lounge on pillows, imbible beverages, and enjoy a marathon audio-visual mix. DJ Pod rules the turntables. Doors open 6pm.

The N electr Screenings at 9pm. \$5-\$2,000 sliding (a benefit for the financially strapped Bald-win). 992 Valencia St. 648-

**Castro Theatre** 

Castro Theatre
'Mad Max (1979)," featuring 21-year-old Mel Gibson as
a highway patrolman battling
a violent gang of nomad bikers in the not-too-distant future. Newly re-mastered
stereo soundtrack (the original was mono) restoring the stered soundtrack (the origi-nal was mon) restoring the characters' original Aus-tralian accents (which had been dubbed with American accents for overseas distribu-tion). 2, 4:30, 7, & 9:30pm. Castro St. at Market. Info: 621-6120.

# ue

A Different Light Acclaimed photographer Arthur Tress signs copies of his new book, Male of the Species, featuring his best of 40 years of male and erotic photos. Free. 7:30pm. 489 Castro St. Info: 431-0891.

Braunstein/ Quay Gallery

Ongoing exhibition: "Light, Shadow, Burn," Robilee Frederick's new abstract, light-filled oil and wax paint-ings, and "The Messenger," an electronic installation of sound, light and form by internationally recognized sound and performance artist Paul DeMarinis. "The Messenger" displays email messages, one letter at a time, through an orchestra of talking washbasins, a chorus line of dancing skeletons, and a series of electronic liquid ifflied jars that oscillate and bubble each moment a message is received. Free. an electronic installation of Sage is received. Free.
Through January 8. 11am-5:30pm Tue.-Sat. 430
Clementina (btwn. 5th & 6th).
Info: 278-9850.



La Peña, Berkeley "Cafe Poetry," hosted by Blake Tolbert. Poets feedback session 7:30-8pm. Open mic 8-9pm. \$2. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Info: (510) 849-



Ladi, Fulani girl, Nigeria, 1981 by Margo Davis, at Scott Nichols Gallery. See Thursday.

# hu

Yerba Buena Center As part of the bay Area reliable.

Live," the big exhibition of local artists, Lewis deSoto presents "Ship," a performance of his sculptural robot, a model of nls sculptural robot, a model of an early 20th-century steamship based on blueprints from Harland and West, the Scottish shipbuilders who de-signed the Titanic. Free with signed the Titanic. Free with gallery admission (\$5 general, \$3 students, seniors and Center Members). 6pm. Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mis-sion St. Info: 978-ARTS.

The Swallow

"Welcome to the New Millennium," featuring Phillip Williams on stage, accompanied by Larry O'Leno on piano. No cover. 9:30pm.

1750 Polk St. (at Washington). Info: 775-4152.

Quetzal

Opening reception: "Ideal Pop," paintings by Claibourn. Hamilton. They pair familiar, pop images with unexpected subjects, leaving the question: "What makes pop ideal?"
The answer comes from a gay Black male's point of view.
Free. 7-10pm. 1234 Polk St. (at Bush). Info: 440-4598.

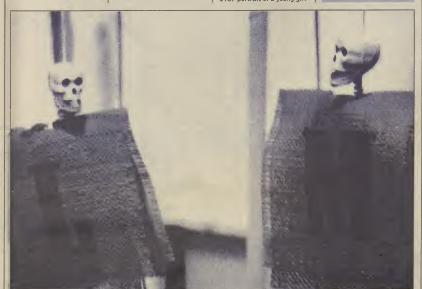
Scott Nichols Gallery Opening reception: a retro-spective show of photographs by Bay Area photographer
Margo Davis, featuring her
remarkable portrait work
spanning a period of over
thirty years. In her twenties,
Davis began photographing Davis began pnotographing family, friends and people she encountered in her native New England. One of the first photographs in the show is a 1967 portrait of a young girl in a Boston neighborhood. Free. 5:30-7:30pm. 49 Geary St., 4th floor. Info: 788-4641.

### WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

Mark Mardon Out & About Bay Area Reporter 395 Ninth Street San Francisco, CA

Deadline is the Friday before issue date.



The Messenger, detail, 1998, toy skeletons, cloth, wood, solenoids, electronics, wash-basins, glass jars, chemicals, foil electrodes, computer internet, dimensions variable, by Paul DeMarinis. At Braunstein/Quay Gallery. See Tuesday.

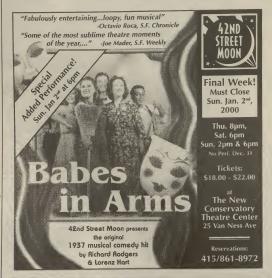
### Join Us New Year's Eve

Dinner Served 5:00-10:00 PM Minimum \$20.00



**Patio Cafe** 

531 Castro Street, between 18th/19th Breakfast/Lunch served from 9:00 AM Dinner Served from 4:00 PM Christmas

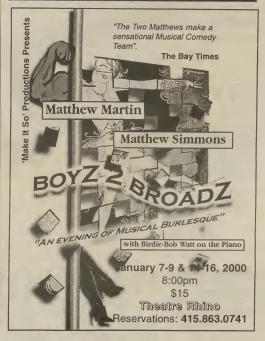


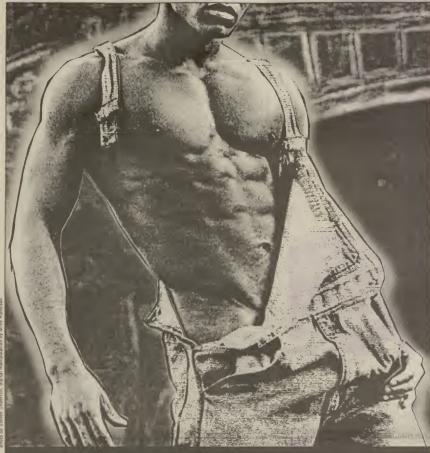


Once I calmed down, the Bitch's words did ring so sourly in my ears. "I'll show her!" I cried, shaking my fist at the morning sky.



THE STATIONERY & TOY STORE 2150 MARKET STREET SAN FRANCISCO, CA 415.621.0890 FAX 415.626.5729





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#### PARTING **GLANCES**

Sexy Stunning Young

Asian Boy! Admired in subway "M" muni 10:20, 12/17, Disarray spiky hair, great smile, earring, black shirt, white sleeves, lots of eye contact! w/Asian BF? Me: cute blond boy, meet? 1271327

Muni #14 11-9 Early Eve You: shaved head- white t-fa-tigues. Me: tall bearded, over-sized sweats- music in ears. Thanks for the wink and smile-could there be more? 22 71096

South By Southwest You went to a Hockey game in Phoenix. I continued to Albuquerque. Care to.... Junch or....something? 271136 Old Navy, Sat. 18th
You- crew cut, beautiful blue
eyes, blk jacket, teal khakis,
couldn't help staring- Me-Latin,
waiting outside. We exchanged
greeting, would like to introduce
myself. 12 71328

Bed Bath & Beyond 11/21 You, brown hair, beard, yellow long sleeve dress shirt & blue jeans, Me: blond, beard, green long sleeve sports logo shirt, blue

jeans. Between 3-4pm. Interested? 🕿 71135

Tom-Leather Buddies 11/25
You = from New England; Me
= familiar with your workplace
there. Would love to meet and
play with your other piercing!

☑ 71134

Flower Mart-Sat Dec. 11 You-working at shop- Me: tall, dark hair goatee, you smiled, but

were on the phone said hi the week before- Dinner sometime? 271326

Looking For Randal
Sorry I missed you before the
move. Lost your phone #. SFO
was last contact: SSF or Daly
City. Drove you to DMV in East
Bay, Steamworks. 

↑ 71098

Cafe Flore Sat 11/20 Midday Shared a smile in line for the mens room. You: blonde, white-t shirt, jeans, adorable. Me: black leather jacket, jeans, cap. Would like to meet. 12 71097

Safeway- Concord-Thanksgiving You-tall Asian born in 1976 w/girlfriend? Me guy behind you at checkout -Interested? 27 71131

Kirby, Kirby, Kirby
You/me, the Windmills, Sat.
11/20 (Late). Both up to no
good. Wanted to ask you out,
wish I would have then. I was in
'total' awe... Dinner? Jeff ©
71132

Frank At Ocean Beach You had a bike. I had a new car. Back to my place on 20th. I dropped you in the Castro. Would love to go again. How about it? Jim 271133

Ross Store 10:30am
Thurs 9 Dec
Curly haired cutie, purchasing
festive ties to "work 2 catering
job" in line behind muscular
black man, "Had to rush off to
work." Let's make time. 12
71176

Buttercup In Berkeley 11/26

11/26
You sat at window table approx.
noon, day after Thanksgiving.
You: glasses, moustache, balding, dark, over 40.1 was with
gal-pal, we smiled as I exited.
Thinking 'bout you. ♀ 71177

Cow Palace 12/4 Cow Palace 12/4 You: stunning, glasses, light blue striped, with (boy?)friend. Me: interested, tan shirt, faded 501's. with father, his lover. Wish I'd talked to you. Give me a second chance? 2 71178

Election Day AM Muni Castro AM Muni Castro
You there 7amish reminding
people to vote for Tom. Me, suit
and tie smoking, talked to you a
bit had to go to work, want to do
dinner? 2 71325

#### SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Seeking Friendship, LTR GWM, 35, 6'0", 170, bottom, HIV-, seeking new friends, for possible LTR. 35-45, profession-al. Please be sincere. No over-weight. Let's have fun. 12 71099

EB WM Seeks LM For? Attractive 35yo WM seeks friendship or more. Like movies, dinner; dancing, cuddling. Be 28-40, not bad to look at and have a sense of humor. Smoker ok. ☎ 71100

Masculine Top Seek Son GWM, 250's, 57", ns, HIV-. Seeks muscular submissive boy/son who is educated, affec-tionate, funny and stable. ♀ 71109

Attractive Latino
Goodlooking Latino 5'6", 140#
brown eyes, goatee, dark hair,
professional looking for GWM
between 26-40yo for friendship
or more. Like biking, travel, go
out dinner, movies, hiking etc.
27 71101

Dirty Old Man 4 Buttboy Senior masculine GWM wants your ass. Seeking masculine/ submissive GWM. (For the right guy, I can be a filthy old man). 12 71102

Friendship And Sex Seeking both, Me: 50 BM top. You: 55-60 WM bottom. Let's have dinner, drinks, smoke, con versation and good sex. Please be 5'10" or less. Not thin, no beard and sensitive nips. 12 71103

Seeking For A Nice Guy GAM, 24, 5'9", 175# healthy, cute, funny, easy going but very caring, creative, romantic, likes music and dancing. Seeks GWM about under 35. No overweights please. \$\tilde{\Omega}\$ 71104

Scorpio Boy
35yr German & Irish average
guy versatile HIV + 5'11"
1951bs br eyes & hair. Smooth
body, enjoys walks on beach
working out at home. Movies,
kissing, cuddling, cooking ns, nd,
Itd. 12 71105

Single In The City Sucks
But not as good as I do! Horny
top 30-50 beaded by 49y/o bottom eager to leave single hood,
kind, honest, loving/cabin looking to enjoy together. 22 71106

Older 70's GWM
Seeks Younger
Under 45, gdlk'g man for lots of cuddling, kissing and making intimate love. In or out of bed, you will enjoy having me as a friend.

12 71107

Goodlooking Latin 28 I'm 5'6", 165lbs, stocky, muscu-lar, dark features. I'm seeking Latins or Whites under 40 for friendship or for building a LTR. N/S only. 22 71108

Looking For Romance GWM, 43, 5'9 1/2", 160lbs, genuinely nice, passionately sexual, healthy pos. Mostly bitm. ISO similar masc. men who are emotional, available, down to earth and top to versatile. 12 71137

Young Only
Seeking young 18-25 hot blooded males for good safe sex and possible friendship. HIV- clean hygiene, non-smoker, drug user, and drinker. All races with nice round butts. 22 71138

Title Body Builders Seeking non-attitude muscle bound males for safe sex and possible friendship. HIV- clean hygiene, large swollen nipples nice round butt, good teeth, Black, Latin and Asian. \$2 71139

Want A Man In Your Life? Want A Man in Your Life?
Or how about two??? Two
friends; GWM, 53, 5'8", 185,
HIV-, and GAM, 56, 5'8", 135,
HIV-, each seek a separate relationship with the same hairy,
hunky lover man. 22 71140

ISO My Latin Santa Who's honest, tender & roman-tic, HIV-, 36-46; Let's enjoy the magic of Ghristmas together. Me: GWM, 41, 5'9", 175lbs. brn/blue. For a fun date pls. call. 12 71141

Offering Love Affection & 'Down-Home' Cooking! Handsome, funny, passionate, 'Southern'' WM, 32, 6'1", 185lbs. ht/wt proportionate. Seeks Asian-top-male, ht/wt proportionate, nice looks, facial hair A+. ☎ 71142

GWM Seeks Man Of Color 5'10", 45, 160, blond, bottom/versatile, HIV+. Looking for gentle guy. Build a life to-gether? Like arts, music, out-doors, cooking, sking? sailing? I have spirlt and soul. Let's talk. 12 71143

EastBay Guy For You GWM, late 40's, Italian, hairy, professional. Looking for ro-mance, sex, whatever. ☎ 71329

On Crutches GWM 5'10", 195lb., 47y/o (use crutches) ISO younger guy for romance & possible LTR. 12



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Name				_								D	aytin	ne Te	lepho	one				_
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CATEGOR	٦
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Parting Glances Seeking Relationship Seeking Adventure

Lesbian [ Fetishes Couples [ Others

Write the rest of your ad here. 30 words maximum

MAIL FORM TO: BAR Talk, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

Seeking Hispanic/ Blond Blue 18-21yrs. Prefer significant other/friends HIV-. No overweights/fems. I'm Hispanic, blk. hr. brn. eyes. olive complexion, 24yrs. 157lbs. HIV-considered good looking com-ments made. 22 71180

Good Catch! GWM, 41, 6'3", 220# finan-cially secure HIV-, recently out of LTR. Seeks 35-45y.o., HIV-dark, hairy, top. Like movies, en-tering & good times, no drugs, alcohol ok. ♀ 71181

If You're Gonna Suck Cock...

Suck Cock...
Then be so good at it your guys
don't even fantasize fucking you/
always cum back for more, is my
motto! What's yours? 
?? 71182

Erotic Chastity
Tight confinement, many days
without cumming, prolonged sensual arousal. Seeking partner for
deep intense involvement, delicate beginning, gradual development. WM 53, 5'8", 170 #,
solid workout body, bald short
hair/beard. 12 71183

ISO Adventurous Untdoors Guy
WM, attrac, 5'7", 150#, 48, neg. likes: hiking, camping, rodeos, motorcycles, adventure, passion and big hearts. 

1179

Best Friend Seeks Same Best Friend Seeks Same
Not having much trouble getting
laid, would like to meet someone
to share affection, intimacy, and
passion with. "m HIV+, 47,
5'8". 140lbs, top Looking for a
stocky bottom with a vivid personality who wants a best friend
and companion. \$2 71330

#### SEEKING **ADVENTURE**

Bottom Asian 33, 5'8", 160#, bottom Asian horny seeks GWM 30-44 to rin my ass, to fuck me hard & deep throat me. 2 71110

Let Me Service Your Cock GWM, 5'11", 175#, HIV-n/s, n/d like ser ice your 7" cock and get fucked and watch video's ,any age. No factor or race

Most Ads Exclude Me Most Ads Exclude Me Since I'm near 50 and balding, but I enjoy shooting my love gun as much as any kid does. Sin-cere, masculine, easy to reach men only, please. No indirect #'s. ☑ 71112

Fuck Buddy Search BTM looking for goodlooking GWM top who likes to fuck. UB: Tall with nice cut tool. Condoms only, eves or wkends. I am 5'8', s/p, great smile & eyes. N/d, n/s, aroma ok. 12 71113

Rubber GWM 5'6" 140#, 60 ISO others who like drysuits, rubber, latex or leather for play and friendship. Bound to have fun. LTR desired. 2 71115

Santa Rosa Head WM, 44, heavyset, offers great head to clean WM's- no recip. 22 77148

Rough & Ready
White guys wanted by Oriental
slut. You: 35 & under, blue collar type w/8" plus, for front/rea
pussy-banging. Me: 35, 165,
5'9" gdlkg. ♀ 71116

Uncut Hung 9 Hairy Masc Musc. GWM 50, 5'9"-160, balding, versatile top seek fit man with great butt, legs, nipple work, light S & M, rough & tender, kiss & cuddle. From east coast-visit SF in Jan. HIV+ ok. I am 15yrs, 12 71117

Bad Attitude -- Good Fuck Hot, masculine, muscular, big-dick Italian top is looking for a hot, masculine, in-shape eager-to-please bottom under 45, any race. 20 71118

Seeking A Neanderthal GWM, 37, 5'11", 175, br/br www, 37, 511°, 175, br/br, muscular, handsome seeks an extremely hairy in-shape man 30-50, thick, thick hair all over your body, so I can rub my smooth, muscular body against it .Clean and healthy please. 22 71119

Spank Me.. Cute
Little Frat Boy
22 needs over the knee discipli
from dominant big brother 1835. Chinatown. ♀ 71120

Mei: 39, 170 #, 5'9", buzzcut, stache, muscular hairy chest, 8"cut, poz, aggressive, passionate total top; You: GWM, attractive, under 45, slutty nasty bottomboy, eager to please horny daddy. № 71121

Straight WM 55
Seeks Asian
Masculine divorced bi-curious
seeking-hot cream-filled link
sausage. Force feed me and
shoot your load on my face. 12
71122

Muscular WM Seeks Asian For Rope-bondage, submissive and masochism. I'm 32yo, blonde, deeply masochistic, broad mind-ed and turned-on by Chinese 

Missed Your Ad #9920 I am WM, mature, uncut-hung, would like to visit you on Dou-glass at 21. Pls. call 2 71145

Work Yer Dick Hard Work Yer Dick Hard ....And slow, in my mouth. GWM 48, 5'9", slim, smooth, short beard, seeks face fuckers to service. Trim, hung studs to head of line. Repeats A+. ♀ 71146

Tall Seeks Short GWM 55, 6'4" top wants short GWM 5'6"-5'8" 40+ bottom for fun and hot times. HIV-aroma, smoke ok. ♀ 71147

Over The Knee Spanking Ught, sensual, erotic to heavier with hand, belt, paddle. Novices welcome. Me: attrac, GWM, 46, 6'5", 250#, husky build. You: attrac, GM, (White, Asian, Hispanic), slim, nice buns. Limits respected. 

↑ 71114

Big Bottom Bear Type GWM, 41, 5'10", 240#, good-looking, goatee, big butt, not buff, available for dominate tops. Older men of color a plus. Looks, size unimportant. Sex only. Partnered but need more. 92, 71160

Older GWM ISO Older BM (Over 40) who likes any of the followings; to be rimmed, dildo: nips worked, FF, or kinky sleaz action! SFor E.Bay 271149

Hot Shaved Pighole To Fuck aw 5'6" 135lbs tache/tee, tats, pierced, 9"uncut hot shaved hole for bb sex, men 40+, W/S, rim, cigars, just hot nasty sex. 

71150

Lean And Hairy
Smooth trim submissive WM 42
who is masculine, seeks trim
dominant 20's to early 40's with
facial or chest hair, who have
oral needs. № 71151

Hot Mouth For Hot Cock GBM 40's, Oakland seeks WM, 35-50yrs. 6'+ and thick. Love to suck and have you cum on my face. Will lick you all over! 271152

Single Asian Male
ISO Safe Clean
Fun. 36, 5°10", clean cut professlonal, slender built. Not into
scene or stereotypes. Enjoy long
foreplay, kissing, j/o, oral, massage, showers, lots of body contact, STD free important. 

↑↑
1153

Sonoma County Dad Nice-looking, bearded, healthy, generous, fun. Eager to give great head and rimming to slen-der son, 18-30. No reciprocation needed. Available daytimes. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 71154

Sex Buddy Wanted
Me: GBM 6'2", 177lbs. hung,
good looking seeks well hung,
lean men for hot sessions. Very
short hair or shaved A+ but not
necessary. 

↑ 71155

Hot, Tall WM Nut, 1all WM Seeks Hung Fuckbud Masc, 6'3", 175, buzz cut, blue eyes, 30s, looking for: In-shape, discreet, hung WM, under 35, top or versatile men preferred. 22 71156

Looking For Substance 51, GWM, 57", br/br, 135lbs, in-shape, mostly bottom, nice guy, HIV +. Wants to meet top/vers with lots of goals who is fun to be with. \$\mathbf{Q}\$ 71157

Kick Back And Enjoy Free erotic massage and/or oral service by muscular, handsome, longhaired guy. Good looking, trim or in-shape a must, longhair or alternative types A+. I'm a nice guy, UB2. 22 71158

Hot White Or Lat'n
Bottoms 19-30
Wanted by 55yr old white top.
55yr old 6'0", 160lbs, big 9"
dick loves to fuck hot young
White or Latino bottoms. Leave
hot message. 12 71159

Sex Buddy Wanted Gay masculine guy, seeks another 20-50 for regular fun sessions, let's keep each other satisfied and safe! 271161

Gay Latino
Oral bottom seeks cute Latino,
Asian, White oral tops. 

↑
1163

Sonoma County Sex Slave Wanted GWM 6'1" 170# masculine, versatile, non-smoker, seeking sex slave 25-45, who likes to play hard. 271164

Daytime Muscle Cocksucker Horny? Off from work? Need to blow a load? Masculine, buffed GWM, 35, seeks to service nasty, aggressive, dominant, well endowed men. Daddies, business men, uncut, A+++.

71165

Financial District? Hectic day at the office? Congenial senior guy, beard, moustache, silm daddy type, will come down, provide relief, blow horny junior exec. after work. Utmost discretion guaranteed. 2271166

Wildman Seeks Wildman Seeks
Co-Conspirators
My big cock needs frequent,
lengthy, deep polishing. If you're
big & hairy even better, but attitude more important than appearance. Mature is pretty essential though. № 71184

2 Black Men Wanted 8" Or More
Well endowed Black men to fulfill my fantasy. Would be White
fuck toy for both. Me: 5'8",
155#. 24hr sexual slave. 

71185

Naked Muscle
Cock stroking exhibitionist seeks
other naked guys for j/o excitement. Wild fantasy! Stripped
down and exposed. Horny hard
tools naked and shooting cum.
Let's showoff together. 12
71186 Naked Muscle

Are You Shaved Smooth?!?! Hairless/shaved admirer looking for hot smooth men. Seeking shaved muscles and hairless cocks. Any pubic hair left?! Let me lick & touch while you show off your smooth assets. 22 71187

**Hugs And Kisses** Hugs And Kisses My arms hold what the world lacks. I'm a top- like oral give/take, deep kissing. Me: at-trac. GWM, 46, 65°, 250lbs, husky build. You: attrac. GM (White, Asian, Latin), 21-35, slim. ₤ 71188

Sexy GAM Seeks WM For Pumping
GAM, 30, clean cut, smooth,
boyish, gdlkg seeks WM for
doggy-style fun. Blond's a plus.
Couples welcome. 

↑ 71189

Masochist Seeks Asian Muscular, 5'10'', handsome, hot, 32y.o., blonde seeks experienced Chinese top/sadist for rope bondage, safe play and long-term friendship. I'm broad-minded, friendly, sincere and fun. You must be serious. 

↑ 71190

I'm Glad I'm A Born I'm Glad I'm A Born
Cocksucker
So I don't have to learn all those
complicated variations & nuances that delight your tool,
uncut a plus, or be born again!

₹ 71191

Deep Into A Blond Bottom Seeking fuck buddy my age to pound this handsome blond 34yo. You & me: masculine, cleancut, HIVneg, into it. Looks unimportant. © 71336

Older GWM ISO BM
Over 40 who likes nipple work or rimming or dildos or PF or even more nasty fun. SF or EB. 120
71192

Do You Miss
The Black House?
I'm hosting an intimate 12/31
Black- House-style gathering in
Oakland for participants over
40. Hotel, chip in and direct contact (no beeper, voicemail, work
phone) # required. 

71193

Abusive Morally Abusive Morally
Corrupt Daddy
Must move to LA and need
S&M, C&BT, TT, Sanking,
shaving, humiliation. Be young,
smooth, slender and need to be
owned, used, abused. Fleshy titties, small cock, BBs a plus. 
71332

Long, Thick, Hot! Hot, handsome, hung, top, 6'170", goatee, looking to fill your holes with a long, thick tool & big head. 2 71333

Start The New Year Right! Italian GM, 44, 5'11", 200#, hairy, playful, toppish sks hairy GM, 30-50 in SF for frequent safe sexual encounters. \$\Omega\$71334

Just Shut Up And Ride
34, WM, 5'10" 195lb
blond/blue bodybuilder wants
masculine good looking men to
pump me or get pumped. Also
love to get massaged and jerked
off- anytime. 12 71335

#### LESBIAN

Hailing Frequencies Open! Proud, GBF, 51, ISO that "Spe-cial Woman!" Friendship first, communication and trust a MUST. Those with too many ma-terial hang-ups, need not reply. Can we talk? 22 71175

#### **FETISHES**

Your Feet In My Face GBM, 40's seek WM, 35-45, with large feet, long toes to ser-vice. Have hot mouth for clean feet. Lay back - I lick- No recip-rocation. ♀ 71124

**Bootlicking Fetish** Older, generous guy seeks studs to age 40 who will allow him to lick and polish boots. Especially excited by military, police and cowboy attire. 271125

Daytime-Asshole Eater!

Santa Bear Leaving A
Switch
Commemorate an old holiday
tradition. Have you been naughty
or nice? Is it better to give than
receive? 
71127

Bondage Partner Or

More.... SGWM, 43, 5'10", 170, attractive, healthy, fit. Into leather, boots, rope, strait Jackets, cuffs, hoods and gage-seeks similar for hot bondage play or more. Relationship- oriented. 22 71128

Daytime Asshole-Eater!
Get your asshole eaten by a pro!!

↑ 71167

Quench My Thirst Looking for guys who want to piss in my mouth. 58yrs. old, 5'10", 170lbs, in good shape, thirsty. 2 71168

Prolonged Bondage
And Erotic
Torture by two experts with all the equipment for good looking studs up for sexual adventure.

2 71169

\*HPIDE WOFKOUT
45yr old nipple pig, brn/brn, salt
& pepper goatee, tatts & piercings. Seeking serious nipple buddy
for kick ass tit play with growth in
mind...pumping weights, clamps.
Call \*\*\text{Call 127} 71170

Man W/Toe Ring
Sks Foot Partner
Lifelong excitement looking
at/fantasizing about men/s
barefeet. Masculine, goodlooking
East Bay GWM, 5'9", 140#, tan,
moderately hairy, HIV-, loves reciprocal kissing, licking, massaging
barefeet, safe J/O. LET'S GO
BAREFOOT! \$\omega\$ 71171

Bondage Top Experienced bondage top, GWM, god looking, 41, 5'8", 155#, in-shape, seeks submissive, mascu-line, in-shape guy, 21-45, for erotic bondage and play, Bl, straight, ok. Limits respected. Safe, discreet, trustworthy. St/ East Bay. 12 71172

Huge Nipples On Big Chest Looking for men who crave nip-ple work. If you have big tits, hungry for action, Let's talk. You're in for a treat. 22 71173

Oral passive wants "DAD" to spread his legs, relax, enjoy someone service his crotch. Exhibitionist, verbal. Tall makes it easier to kiss your ass. \$\text{\Omega}\$? On My Knees

A Lay And A Spray
Fuck hole and urinal. Available
for assertive mature man. Vallejo area a plus. 1271337

Tickleplay GWM, 36, 5'11", 175#, seeks ticklish guys for bondage/tickle-play. Prefer lean, 25-45 with some experience in this fetish, but open to all. 2 71339

#### **OTHERS**

Bury My Face In Yours... FTM seeks fat femme with huge attitude problem. 41, bearded, Mexican, velocity tongue. Becha can't wear me out (but please try) Women only please. 12 71340

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### Ten '90s albums

**⋖** page **27** 

Out. Of course, an expressive voice is well and good, but do they rock, you ask? In the most primal

and impassioned way imaginable.

Belle and Sebastian: If
You're Feeling Sinister Scotand's Belle and Sebastian write songs about being young, working class, chronically melancholy and voraciously pansexual. In other words, they're no different from words, they re no different from almost every other UK act around, except that their work is far more heartfelt and clever. The wittily disconsolate lyrics on 1997's If You're Feeling Sinister are leavened by spirited melodies and brilliant arrangements. Folk-pop rarely combines this kind of emotional

weight and pure songwriting skill.

Moby: Everything is Wrong
Despite the astonishing eclecticism of the music, you never get the sense that Moby is merely dabbling on 1995's Everything is Wrong. He brings a real commit-ment and depth of feeling to the disparate genres, whether it's



Moby knows everything is wrong

ragged hardcore or passionate techno. He even redeems ordinarily sleepy New Age music with the stirring "God Moving Over the Face of the Waters."



PJ Harvey back in 1992

PJ Harvey: Dry A young woman — sexually assured and raring for a fuck — is met with ridicule and rejection from her man on "Sheela-na-gig," the centerpiece of PJ Harvey's 1992 debut CD, Dry. Whether drawing on

Celtic mythology (as on "Sheela-na-gig"), the Bible or her own experience, Harvey is constantly exploring issues of female empowerment, particularly of a sexual nature, on *Dry*, while urgent, pared-down blues provides the perfect musical setting. As is so often the case with debut efforts, this record provides the purest expression of who Harvey is as an artist.

Elastica: Elastica Okay, enough with the serious stuff, already. Sometimes this boy just ready. Sometimes this boy just wants to throw on a pair of pegged pants and pogo around the apartment like it's 1979. Elastica is perfect for moments like those, because few bands have plundered their old record collections as gleefully or as artfully as the British band does on its 1995 debut. Combining a little Burgdebut. Combining a little Buzz-cocks, a little Blondie, a little Stranglers and a whole lotta Wire, Elastica ends up with something far greater — as well as fresher and more vital — than the sum of its parts. Never sparked the New Wave revival I hoped it would, but a great record nonetheless.



Class of '95, now missing in action: Britain's Elastica

# Redundant divas

# Not much to show for '90s

by Gregg Shapiro

he '60s and '70s superstar Diana Ross was conspicu-ously absent for most of the

Diana Ross was conspicuously absent for most of the '90s. With the exception of a mid-'90s seven-track disc of remixes of her earlier hits (including extended dance remixes of "Someday We'll Be Together," "Love Hangover" and 'I'm Coming Out") and her fluke dance-club smash cover of "I Will Survive," Ross has not had much luck with new material. Her latest studio disc Every Day Is A New Day (Motown) will probably do little to change that situation. In fact, the best track is Ross's cover of Martha Wash's recent dance-club hit "Carry On." The dance remixes of the ballad "Until We Meet Again" (the disc's third track) are a pleasant surprise and hold up better than the album version. The best way to enjoy this disc is to avoid all four songs co-written by Malik Pendelton, and only listen to the Diane Warren tracks when your blace. ton, and only listen to the Diane Warren tracks when your blood

Warren tracks when your blood sugar is extremely low.

Dionne Warwick has also been noticeably absent. Legal and financial troubles have been keeping her busy all decade. Warwick plays it safe with *The Definitive Collection* (Arista). Better to haul out the hits for the umpteenth time than do an album of new

material which, as Ross's does, only serves to expose the dearth of decent material for middle-aged divas. Warwick has more than her share of "hits" collections to her name, but *The Definitive Collection* name, but The Definitive Collection boasts tracks from her Scepter Records (such as "I'll Never Fall In Love Again," "Walk On By," "Do You Know The Way To San Jose"), Warner Brothers (her duet with the Spinners, "Then Came You") and Arista ("That's What Friends Are For," "Deja Yu" and "Heartbreaker") periods. If you prefer her Bacharach/David sound, you may want to seek out the Rhino Records anthology from a number of years ago. If you want an almost perfect blend, it can be found on The Definitive Collection.

Long before Diana Ross was covering Gloria Gaynor and

Long before Diana Ross was covering Gloria Gaynor and Martha Wash, Marlena Shaw was covering Diana Ross and having success in discos. Her cover of "Touch Me In The Morning" that was a dance-floor smash in 1979 is included on Go Away Little Boy: The Sass and Soul of Marlena Shaw (Columbia/Legacy), along with 13 other tracks that introduce (or re-introduce) listeners to the "sass and soul" that is Marlena Shaw. In addition to "Touch Me In The Morning," other highlights include "Love Dancin;" "More," "Sweet Beginnings," and "Pictures And Memories."

In "Grindhouse follies," an article by Gary Morris in the December 23 issue of the B.A.R., incorrect information was given regarding admission price. Admission to the New Meat Campus Theatre is \$10; it has undergone change of ownership and extensive renovation. Admission to the Tearoom Theater is \$5 from 9-10 a.m. Mon.-Fri. only. The appreciation of modern-day grindhouses could have mentioned the Nob Hill Adult Theatre as well. The B.A.R. regrets the errors and omission. ▼



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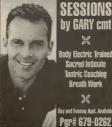
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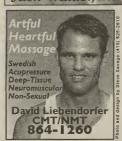
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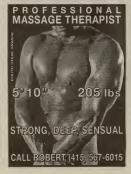
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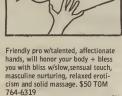
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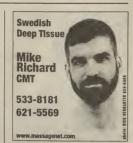
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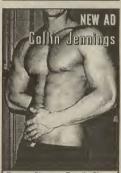
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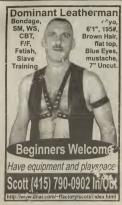
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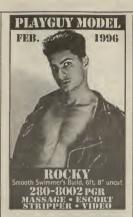
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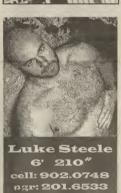
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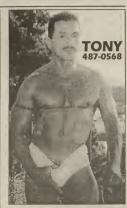
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